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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 55

NOVEMBER 15, 1930

No. 20

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COST OF CATALOGING AND RECATALOGING AND
HOW IT MAY BE REDUCED

RUTH WALLACE

RECENT TENDENCIES IN THE PLANNING AND
ARCHITECTURE OF CENTRAL LIBRARY BUILDINGS

WILLIAM F. YUST

HOW TO ADVERTISE LIBRARY SERVICE TO THE
BUSINESS MAN

CHARLES H. COMPTON

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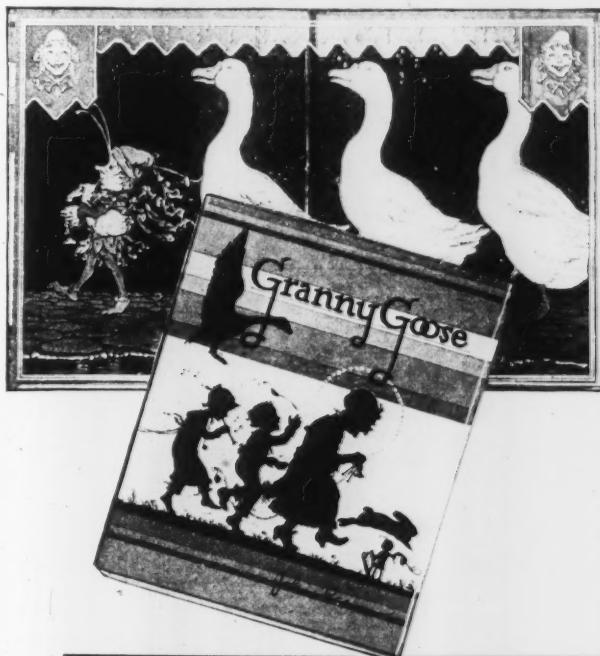
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To the Librarians:

I am writing this letter with regard to a controversy that has arisen as to the patent rights of the Oversewing Machine Company, and the claims by Messrs. Carroll and Rademaekers that its machines infringe upon a patent held by them. This has resulted in a good deal of correspondence, and the insertion of statements in trade papers, and particularly a letter, a copy of which has come to the attention of the Employing Bookbinders of America, signed by Mr. C. W. Carroll stating:

"In the next issue of the Library Journal, you will find legal notice to all Librarians, regarding the use of books which have been oversewed by the Oversewing Machine, as this patent has been infringed and all Libraries using rebound books sewed on this machine, are to be held accountable for the infringement, and to go back for a number of years and pay back royalties on every re-inforced and rebound book sewed on this patent.

"These patents are owned by the W. H. Rademaekers Son Company, who threatened suit against us. We held a consultation with our attorney and made settlement and also purchased a half interest in the patents. In other words, we are now co-plaintiffs with Rademaekers, and by your being our customer, we herewith wish to assure you that we will protect you on every book which we have bound for you. We cannot commit ourselves, however, on the reinforced or rebound books which you have received from other concerns. I wish to assure you that we will stand back of our own work."

At the request of the Library Binders Group of the Employing Bookbinders of America, a meeting of the Executive Committee and the Advisory Committee was held at the Bar Association in New York on Friday, October 31, for the purpose of giving the Library Binders Group an opportunity to present their grievances to the E. B. A.

As a result of this meeting, and by resolution adopted by the Executive Committee and the Advisory Committee, I was directed as General Counsel of the Employing Bookbinders of America, to address this letter to the librarians; and state to them that the law is well settled that, as to libraries and librarians who purchased books sewed on the Oversewing Machine, they are free from liability. The patent in controversy is a patent for a machine for sewing a book, and not a patent on a book. The sale or use of the product of a patented machine is not an infringement of the patent. The sale or use of the product of the machine is not a violation of the exclusive right to make, use or sell the machine itself. Take, for example, a patent on a mill for the manufacture of flour. To construct a patented mill, or to use one, would be an infringement of the patent, but to sell or use a barrel of flour manufactured at such mill is no infringement of the patent. It therefore follows that no library or librarian or other purchaser of books sewed on the Oversewing Machine has the slightest liability. Regarding the statement of Mr. Carroll that he is a co-plaintiff with Mr. Rademaekers, my information is that no suit has yet been brought either against the makers or any user of the machine.

Librarians can pursue their normal course, can deal with any library binderies they choose, and send their books to be sewed or resewed as they please, without any interest in the controversy regarding patent rights, and I should consider it a great favor if any librarian who receives or has received a letter similar to the one above quoted would forward it promptly to me.

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ALFRED E. OMMEN,

General Counsel, Employing Bookbinders of America

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Forthcoming Issues of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

- * Two interesting phases of reference library work will be presented in the next issue: "Departmentalized Reference Service," by Katharine Kendig of the Los Angeles Public Library, and "Reference Work in Branch Libraries," by Vera Morgan of the Indianapolis Public Library. An article on "Tools for the Readers Adviser," by Alice Farquhar of the Chicago Public Library, will also be included in this number.
- * Why the Science Library adopted the Universal Decimal Classification will be related by Dr. S. C. Bradford of the Kensington, London, Science Library in the December 15th issue.
- * Forthcoming articles of interest include a series of articles on libraries in foreign countries and articles dealing with budget making and economic conditions in public libraries.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

NOVEMBER 15, 1930

Cost of Cataloging and Recataloging and How It May Be Reduced

By Ruth Wallace

Chief, Catalog Department, Indianapolis Public Library, Indiana

WHEN THIS TOPIC was suggested, I thought immediately of the very comprehensive and interesting report of the A. L. A. catalog section committee on the "Cost of Cataloging," which was read at the Seattle Conference five years ago—i.e., 1925. This was the second committee appointed by the Section on this subject, and hope was held out that funds for an investigation might be available, if a well considered plan was presented.

REVIEW OF THE REPORT

The report was divided into three main divisions, i.e., Historical introduction; Analysis of the problem; Recommendations.

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

As early as 1905 Mr. William Warner Bishop summed up the question and concluded that the cost of cataloging could be computed in time and results but not in money. In 1912 Mr. Aksel G. S. Josephson raised the question, "What is cataloging?"

As a result the Executive Board of the A. L. A. appointed a committee to investigate the cost and method of cataloging. A questionnaire was sent out covering the questions: (1) What processes are included in cataloging? (2) Standard of workers; and (3) Cost per volume. Cost returns varied from 9½ to 90 cents a volume.

The Survey Questionnaire sent out in 1924 provided information regarding administration and the processes of cataloging. The chief criticisms of the Survey questions were: (1) That they did not call for a discussion of ad-

vantages or disadvantages of methods followed; (2) Absence of questions dealing with materials of a special nature, e. g., serials, periodicals, incunabula, music, etc.; (3) Terms were not defined; (4) It gave no information as to grade and proportion of work that can be done by clerical and technical workers.

The questionnaire of the A. L. A. committee on Library Personnel immediately preceded the Survey. One week's work was reported. Each worker reported the time spent on 125 kinds of work under fifteen main heads. Faulty conclusions were drawn in some cases because: (1) Clerical workers were reported as doing cataloging when they were only typing classification numbers and subject headings on L. C. cards; (2) There were groups which need defining, e. g., Research work is not restricted to cataloging but belongs to revision and classification as well; (3) No distinction was made between revision and revision of cards; (4) Recataloging, reclassification, work on serials, continuations and periodicals were neglected in recording time spent on cataloging.

The University of Illinois and several other University libraries in 1922/23 and 1923/24 divided total catalogers' salary budget by the total number of volumes cataloged. Results varied from twenty-eight to eighty-nine cents and show great variation of procedure and organization of catalogs.

Mr. Paul North Rice, formerly of the New York Public Library, now librarian of Dayton, Ohio, was asked by the A. L. A. catalog section and A. L. A. committee on cataloging to present additional suggestions for a study of cataloging costs. His report was given in 1924,

Paper read before the Ohio Valley Regional Group of Catalogers, April 12, 1930.

It included the following items: (1) That a uniform system of cataloging statistics be established; (2) That the cost of cataloging 100 average books be ascertained; (3) That record be kept in the testing libraries of items cataloged and proportion of time devoted to new work; (4) That proportion in salary roll for the work be estimated; (5) That result of cost of entire output be divided by number of pieces, to get average cost. Divide this result by that for 100 books; (6) That results from libraries of equal size and type be compared.

ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEM

Factors involved in the cost of cataloging. This was discussed under five main headings, i. e., administration, physical conditions, hours of work, procedure, and statistics. By procedure was meant all operations from the time a book leaves the Order Department until it is set up on the shelves. There are forty operations listed under nine main heads. These are operations in the Catalog Department. Then there is the procedure of other departments.

The mutual relation of all departments has its bearing on the cost question: (1) Information known in the Order Department not passed on may require research on the part of the Catalog Department which is wasted time; (2) Information known in the Catalog Department not passed on to the Binding Department makes additional waste; (3) The Reference Department may discover a lack of references and procedure should be effected to conserve this information. Study of cost in procedure is most important. Business efficiency methods should be applied here. Higher price labor should be used only for professional work; cheaper grade of labor for all processes possible. Each member of the staff should be doing the most advanced work for which she is equipped.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Appointment of a committee or board of catalogers to study cost of cataloging.
- B. Procedure suggested:
 1. Select a number of departments for intensive comparative study (two or three types and sizes of libraries)
 2. Analysis and definition of statistics
 3. Analysis of processes; mechanical, clerical, technical
 4. Analysis of administrative problems
 5. Analysis of interlibrary cooperative cataloging
 6. Establish a basis for cost comparison. Cost per volume in each of six types and sizes of libraries for: a, mechanical; b, clerical; c, technical work

7. Define three different processes
8. Study and report on procedure in different types and sizes so one may choose the best
9. Study cooperative methods saving useless repetition of time consuming processes
10. Study selective methods of cataloging to reduce costs, etc.

WHAT, IF ANY, INVESTIGATIONS RELATIVE TO CATALOGING COSTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED ON SINCE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE IN 1925?

The subject was dropped so far as the A. I. A. Committee on Cataloging and A. L. A. catalog section were concerned. Miss Healy, Chairman of the Committee of 1925, writes that nothing more has been attempted. Certain investigations of Miss Harriet E. Howe of the Graduate Library School, Chicago, and of Miss Akers under her direction though carried out with entirely different objectives in mind, do have an indirect bearing on the subject. Miss Howe's investigations have to do with administrative problems. Miss Akers is making a study of fundamentals for cataloging courses. She listed 118 processes and asked eighty-four catalogers to check these to determine whether they should be performed by clerical or professional workers. So far all agree on half of the processes and on the other half the eighty-four catalogers are about evenly divided. This has a direct bearing on the grade and proportion of work to be done by technical and non-technical workers.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR REDUCING THE COST OF CATALOGING AND RECATALOGING

STAFF

Staff members should be chosen with great care because experimentation here is costly. Catalogers are born, not made. They should have technical ability and as a rule should prefer cataloging to other library work. Work should be assigned so as to give variety and relieve monotony.

As many typists and pages should be employed as can be provided with work in a given department. It is surprising how many processes can be successfully performed by them. Our experience indicates that typists should be high school graduates who have completed the course in typing at least and are recommended by their instructors. We sometimes secure girls attending college as part time pages.

When vacancies occur in the department it is fairer and more economical to advance members in the department (if possible) and fill in the lowest grade, i. e., those positions receiving the least pay.

EQUIPMENT

Much could be said on the broader topic of physical conditions but we will take time to speak only of two items of equipment.

a. The new Channel rolls for L. C. Smith machines make it possible to write below the center of the card more easily than with the regular platens provided for this machine. We have invested in seven of these. The new wide platens have advantages, though we have not yet purchased a machine so equipped.

b. Electric erasers: Electric erasers are needed, especially in the recataloging process. There are two good ones on the market: (1) The Weilco is probably the best but is very expensive, \$60. It may be purchased from the J. H. Weil Co., 1315 Cherry Street, Philadelphia; (2) Gaylord Bros. have an eraser for \$19.75. It is $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches high and weighs $3\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, and is said to do excellent work. We are hoping to have one soon.

Cleveland Public Library has used an electric eraser for seven years and found it a great time saver. It also adds greatly to the neatness of work done. Their eraser was the invention of a dental student attending the University of Michigan and is not on the market.

HANDLING BOOKS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Cooperation of the Order Department is a great factor here. We have very fine cooperation on the part of our Order Department along this line. Books are sorted by them, and placed regularly on cases, shelves or trucks designated by us as being nearest the records to be drawn or for some other reason, the most desirable place from the standpoint of economy in handling.

SPECIAL CLASSES OF MATERIAL

There are three classes of material which we think are more economically handled outside of the Catalog Department: Government documents except a few cataloged as separates; Periodicals; Pamphlets except those which are worth cataloging fully.

THE UNIT CARD OTHER THAN L. C. CARDS

We shall mention this only as a possible topic for discussion.

RECLASSIFICATION (IN WHICH MANY OF US ARE INTERESTED)

In the "Cost of Catalog Committee" report the following statement was made: "Reclassification and recataloging vary greatly according to: (a) Size of the library; (b) Date of organization; (c) Changes on account of new conditions. A certain amount of reclassification is inevitable for any catalog as long as we

classify and catalog books representing topics which are going through their growing pains."

There are, of course, two types of reclassifying: (a) Reclassing from an entirely different system as the Poole. We have had experience in this for the last ten or more years and hope that another year will see us through; (b) Expansions within the same classification, i.e., Dewey expansion of European war books, also Sunday school books, etc. Sometimes it is necessary to anticipate Dewey and expand for ourselves, e.g., History of the theater in various countries. We have changed forty-one books by adding .09 and the additional points necessary. It is more economical to reclassify as well as to classify one class at a time. At least the same people should work at one class until it is finished. Familiarity with the class numbers, subject headings and cross references used from day to day saves time when done by one or two persons.

COMPARISON OF THE PROCEDURE FOR RECLASSED AND NEW BOOKS

First with books in a different system. Before recataloging can be begun the heads of two departments at least must look over the books in the stack: the head of the Binding Department and the head of the department chiefly concerned whether Circulating, Reference, Technical, Art, etc. These decide whether the book can be mended or rebound and whether on account of date, subject matter or treatment the book should be discarded.

When L. C. cards are ordered we have found it advisable to pencil the Poole class number on each order. When cards come it is easy to withdraw the Poole shelf cards first, then put both in the books in the stacks before bringing to the Catalog Department.

Classifying and assigning headings require about the same as for new books. Revision is a little more complicated on account of the extra shelf card. The withdrawal of cards from the public catalog takes time. We have often left the cards for certain classes till the work is completed for them and then drawn wholesale from the old catalog for several letters at a time, e.g., M's, N's, O's, P's, were drawn in this way. The new catalog is consulted first now in every case, so this works very well.

For expansions in the Dewey classification the comparison of procedure and time spent is different. Here cards and books must be brought together (and as many copies at a time as possible) to save work of withdrawing records over and over again.

To secure twenty copies of a book, or half that number, from as many different branches

with all the cards needed from each branch in anything like a reasonable time is the problem. We seldom wait until all are received before recataloging and returning books and cards to those branches which responded promptly. Many factors enter in, but six months or more is a long time to have records different in different parts of the system.

When handling such books we pencil at the top of the Union shelf card "changed from 940.91" for example, and make a temporary cross reference for the shelf list from the old number, author and brief title to the new number. Books and cards are changed at the same time whether for central or branches. As they are changed, O. K. is penciled after accession numbers. Res'd, meaning Reserved, and the date will appear after accession numbers for those not yet changed.

A slip with memorandum of the new classification number is clipped to the outside of each title before it is taken to the finishing room and placed on special shelves. This is a guide to the reviser of finished books as well. The verso of title page and book card are changed before being sent to the finishing room.

The securing of books at central either from the shelves or by reserving them, the withdrawal of shelf and all catalog cards, the erasing of class numbers and sometimes subject headings, all require considerably more time than for new books. Erasing electrically would be ideal. A typist can add the new class numbers.

Reclassifying and recataloging undoubtedly require one half as long again as new work and sometimes twice as long.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE SAME BOOK OFTEN DIFFERS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE SYSTEM

1. Adult and juvenile (juvenile classification simpler)
2. Circulating and Reference (different symbol for reference books). If in Granger collection that notation should be added in a note.
3. Genealogy and Reference departments (County histories).
4. Government document collection (Add note but not the special notation of government document collection).

5. Different class numbers for other departments is not a great problem. The department heads concerned usually discuss a book in question and decide which will use it most. If for example the book is on Color and discusses the subject both from the standpoint of Physics and Painting the decision is made to put it in one place or the other. If in technical department a card is made for Color for the Art Department.

Certain books of history or travel are sometimes shelved in the Art Department because valuable for the illustrations. 391 is used for all books on Costume. Other cases such as the same book for Business Branch and the Art Department, or Business Branch and the Technical Department, are handled with little difficulty. Very rarely is a book put in different numbers in these cases. The branch librarians and department heads try to avoid one another's fields as much as possible. For the Art Department catalog we make cross references for some subjects as:

Furniture

For the technical phases of this subject (as manufacture, trade, etc.) see books in the Technical Department.

Consult union catalog on West balcony.

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Changes in subject headings are sometimes necessary. Radio is not an up to date example but shows what may be done in some cases. We wrote L. C. when it seemed necessary to begin using this heading. They recommended the following cross reference.

Radio

Under this heading are entered general works on radio transmission, published since 1925. Works published before 1925 and special technical works are entered under the heading TELEGRAPH, WIRELESS, or TELEPHONE, WIRELESS, as the case may be.

In conclusion we know of no way to avoid reclassifying, recataloging, and changes in subject headings, so long as libraries grow, the D. C. expands and nomenclature changes. To spend time in compiling the actual cost (at least so far as individual libraries are concerned) seems useless. Every worth while short cut whether in processes, equipment, or handling books in the department, should be carefully studied and used in order to reduce the total cost as much as possible.



Recent Tendencies in the Planning and Architecture of Central Library Buildings

By William F. Yust

Librarian, Rochester Public Library, N. Y.

ACCORDING to A. D. F. Hamlin, professor of the history of architecture in Columbia University, "The public library is one of the most highly developed types of buildings to be found in American architectural practice. . . . By careful study of the problems it presents, primarily by librarians and secondarily by architects, its requirements, and the best means and devices for meeting them have been more completely worked out and standardized than those of any other type of edifice except the modern office building. Taken as a whole, the libraries of the United States, large and small, represent American architecture well nigh at its best." That was said fifteen years ago. It is high praise, perhaps too high. It may appear later whether that judgment should be affirmed as it stands or modified.

The word "Recent" is so indefinite and the word "Tendency" is so difficult to define that a simpler title for this paper would be, "Some characteristics of central library buildings of the last ten years." Eleven of the larger central buildings erected during these years are in the order of completion those in Wilmington, 1923; Albany, 1924; Cleveland, 1925; Los Angeles, 1926; Houston, 1926; Pasadena, 1927; Birmingham, 1927; Philadelphia, 1927; Amherst, 1928; Queens Borough, 1929; Richmond, 1930. Buildings are under construction in Baltimore and Brooklyn; they are contemplated in Cincinnati, Milwaukee, and Rochester.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

One of the most telling evidences of the trend of thought in planning is what the makers and the users of plans have to say about them. A "Reference List on Library Buildings and Equipment," compiled by the writer and issued in April, 1930, by the A. L. A., is therefore appended to this article. Of its twenty-four entries, all but five bear the imprint of the last ten years, and over half of them were published during the last five years. Reference should also be made to a paper presented to this Association in 1916 at the Denver conference by Mr. Chalmers Hadley, entitled "Some Recent Features in Library Architecture." Several of the features pointed out by him have developed into real tendencies and are therefore emphasized anew.

Paper read before Library Building Round Table, A. L. A. Conference at Los Angeles, 1930.

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SUMMARY

They may be summarized under economy of construction, economy of operation, and, above all, enlargement and enrichment of service. Economy has always been a watchword. A new meaning lies in its application to the time and effort of the reader as well as to the cost of the service. Efficiency was a favorite word until it became trite. Rotarians and their like are now overworking the little word "service" so that it is in similar danger. And yet no one word has ever given better expression to the library ideal. The difference between yesterday and today lies mainly in the expanding conception of its meaning and a broadening attitude toward methods for its realization.

The librarian of today, like the first librarian, still has to deal with books and people. But neither the books nor the people are the same. Both have changed vastly in character and number. Where formerly there were a hundred books and a hundred readers, there are now a thousand books and a thousand readers. But the librarian's job is still to bring them together easily and effectively, not just a few of each but many books and many readers. The change, however, has not been merely quantitative. With the growth of the democratic spirit has come the conviction that "books are not for the few but for the many," and that each one of "the many" should receive larger consideration than was formerly shown to the few. And so the librarian is constantly endeavoring to increase the users and the use of books by making the books more accessible. Increased accessibility of books is the most significant characteristic of modern library planning.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Among the influences which have been operative in producing change may be mentioned:

1. THE HIGH COST OF SITES, OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND OF LABOR, which increased so enormously during the World War that the building of libraries was decidedly checked. Due regard for these items still delays "enterprises of great pith and moment," and causes more thorough study of the economic factors involved.

2. THE RAPID ACCUMULATION OF LARGE BOOK COLLECTIONS. As libraries grow larger and available space smaller, the problem of shelf capacity becomes more acute.

3. THE INCREASING POPULARITY OF LIBRARIES due to increased population and a more general use of books by the rising generation.

4. THE DEMANDS OF THE AGE. Modern scientific developments and mechanical inventions have eliminated inconveniences that once were accepted as necessary evils. The automobile, the electric elevator, the airplane have revolutionized much of our thinking and developed impatience with the slow methods of the past.

5. TRAFFIC CONDITIONS, which affect location, approach and general layout of grounds.

6. ADVANCES IN ELECTRIC LIGHTING. Electric light is cheaper, under better control and more adaptable to building requirements and human needs than ever before.

7. LESSONS FROM OFFICE AND OTHER COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, in which every square inch of rental area counts. Investments in these have been large, and a corresponding amount of attention has been given to their planning and operation.

8. LESSONS FROM BRANCH LIBRARIES. Branch libraries are the chief agencies for bringing books close to the people. When Boston started the first branch library there was so much fear about its effect on the central library that the poor little branch was placed on an island. The idea proved so harmless and wholesome that it was allowed to come on the mainland. Ever since then we have been learning from branches our most valuable lessons of how to make books accessible. Location in a community center, entrance on the sidewalk level, visibility from the street, open shelves, self help, friendly intercourse, these are all plants that have been largely fostered and developed in the popular atmosphere of the branches. Even in temporary quarters they have proved useful laboratories for experimenting and testing new theories.

9. CHANGE OF POLICY BY THE CARNEGIE CORPORATION WITH REGARD TO GIFTS. Andrew Carnegie and, later, the Carnegie Corporation was for many years the chief source of funds for new buildings. In the course of time certain suggestions on the part of the corporation developed into definite instructions, which were finally printed as "Notes on the Erection of Library Buildings." Although they were suggestive rather than mandatory, probably no four-page pamphlet on the subject has had a wider standardizing influence. In 1924 Mr. Hadley incorporated it entirely in his brief book on *Library Buildings*. These "Notes" aimed to secure "an effective and economical layout of the interior." They undoubtedly had a wholesome effect and prevented much waste of generous funds. They prescribed no specific architecture, and yet the deference with which they were naturally received ultimately

produced a more or less fixed type of building that is readily recognized. Now that these gifts for buildings have been discontinued, communities and architects are exercising greater freedom in the expression of their individuality. This freedom may not be producing better plans, but at least there is greater variety.

CIVIC CENTERS

An increasing number of large cities are developing civic centers. Several recent library buildings are located in such centers, where it was necessary for them to conform to the general architectural scheme of the group. The results are not all successful. In such an arrangement the library may profit by and contribute to the architectural effect which the community desires to accomplish. Unless there is sufficient detachment, however, the plan is almost certain to imply restrictions that will interfere with the best planning as well as future expansion. The dominant idea in a civic center is architectural effect. This is not in keeping with the principle of locating the library primarily for service. Unless the civic center happens to be in the best place for such service (which is not generally the case), the placing of the library in the civic center is a mistake.

The Classic Greek architecture long dominant in libraries large and small is still favored for monumental buildings, although modifications are frequent. A striking departure is the Los Angeles building with its spreading masses of concrete rising high in modern terraced formation.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE IN LIBRARIES

It has required real courage as well as originality to break away from the traditional type of library architecture. Modifications came, however, and are still coming in response to the ever-present desire for variety and especially as a result of radical changes in our conception of proper library service and of the building features essential to its achievement. This movement is producing structures better adapted to their purpose and to local and climatic conditions.

REDUCTION OF WASTE SPACE

Conspicuous among these changes is a reduction in the large amount of space formerly allotted to permanent walls, halls, stairways, corridors and rotundas. It seems almost incredible, and yet we are told that in some monumental buildings fifty per cent of the ground area is used for these purposes, when it could be readily reduced to twenty per cent or less. Such reduction not only lowers the cost of construction but also the cost of operation

and makes the reader's approach to the books shorter and more satisfactory.

Economy of space through compact storage of books finds a most recent development in the rolling stack of the Toronto Public Library. This is a marked advance on the storage stack of England, and is the first of its kind in America.

Another wasteful arrangement that has been abandoned is the radial stack and its architectural accompaniment, the semi-circular wall at the rear, more costly to build than a straight wall and less easy to change in future expansion. The only method of enlargement is to tear it down and build anew. This feature was copied for years from the library exhibit at the Columbian Exposition.

GREATER FREEDOM IN PLACING BOOK STACKS

An immense gain for library planning has come through greater freedom in placing book stacks regardless of daylight. In former days, owing to the inadequacy of artificial light, one of the chief problems was to place the stack room where it could receive the largest amount of natural light. Many large buildings have the major part of one side or the rear marked with long narrow windows close together, extending from the ground to the roof, luring in the light between the long rows of book shelves. At best they worked only during the daytime. Furthermore, this arrangement forever shut off the light and air on that side of the building from readers, who needed it more than did the books. The books suffered from the light and the readers from the lack of it.

The great developments in electric lighting have completely changed this problem and made it possible to place the stacks wherever they are most accessible. The most thoroughgoing application of this principle is placing the stack in the center of the building, with reading, study and work rooms on all four sides. One of the earliest examples was in the Public Library of Portland, Ore.; another in Minneapolis; more recently in Pasadena, and the latest in Richmond, Va. More frequently this freedom is seen in placing the stack in the basement, which was early done in Springfield, later in Wilmington, and now in Baltimore. The Philadelphia stack begins twenty-five feet below ground.

LARGER OPEN SHELF SPACE

The open shelf idea is still growing. What is designated as the open shelf room constitutes one of the largest and most conspicuous units in every modern building. This is in addition to the fact that there are many books in reference and other departmental rooms to which readers have free access. Baltimore will have eight open shelf rooms instead of one, covering

the entire first floor and containing 150,000 volumes. In spite of the tremendous loss of books by theft, the plan is still regarded as economical on account of its saving in salaries of assistants and in time of borrowers. Of course the greatest gain is to readers, for whom this method changes the getting of a book from an embarrassing and at times exasperating experience to a simple, direct and fascinating adventure. The open shelf room is the best illustration of the spirit of the modern library, which has satisfying service as its goal.

STORAGE AT A DISTANCE

In 1902 President Eliot of Harvard appeared before this Association and outlined a method for relieving book congestion in central libraries by providing cheap storage for less used books at a distance from the main building, where the "overhead" would be less expensive. He had in mind a plan in which large libraries in a given region would co-operate. The idea has lain dormant for almost thirty years. Recently it was put into successful practice by the Providence Public Library, as described by its librarian, Mr. Clarence E. Sherman, in the July, 1929, number of *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL*. Since the plan was first suggested by President Eliot, automobile transportation has improved so much that book deliveries can now be made at a central library from a distant point within the city almost as quickly as they were formerly within the building. It is only at matter of time when other libraries without room for expansion will have to adopt this plan or some other method to accomplish the same result.

OPEN AIR READING ROOMS

The patio retains its position as an architectural feature in buildings of the South and southern California. In regions farther north the idea persists that an open air reading room on the roof or in a beautiful garden ought to be popular, but it is not. Either that type of reading is rare or people prefer to do it in the privacy of their own back yard. As those private yards grow smaller in size and number, there may come greater interest in public open air reading rooms.

PROVISION FOR STAFF

Good planning continues to recognize the importance of the human factor. In the commercial world more and more work is being done by machines, but the machines themselves require an increasingly higher type of operator. Exhaustive investigations by industrial plants into the effect of physical surroundings have resulted in the most modern provisions for the health, comfort and general well-being of employees with corresponding gain in qual-

ity and quantity of finished product. The regular workrooms of libraries are no exception in this respect. Likewise, commodious and well-equipped staff rooms for rest and recreation in a convenient and pleasant part of the building have become established features. It has been said: "The staff accommodations in the Philadelphia building should serve as a model for other libraries for a long time."

INSTITUTIONALISM

No trend of recent years is more pronounced than the attitude against the formalism and institutionalism of library buildings, a phrase which is broad enough to cover a multitude of sins of omission and of commission. Almost a quarter of a century ago, "Mr. Dooley" contributed this comic valentine:

"A Carnaygie libry is a large brown-stone, impenethrible buildin' with the name iv th' maker blown on th' dure. Libry fr'm two Greek wurruds, libus, a book, an' ary, sildom—sildom a book. A Carnaygie libry is archy-technoer, not lithrachoor."

Only two years ago a Springfield newspaper spoke of some libraries which have a "look of a prison where books are caged up and held incommunicado for life."

Some of the most loving tributes have come from librarians themselves. Mr. Charles R. Greene says we talk much about progress but "go on building structures not unlike armories, depots or post offices." Even Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick admits that sometimes the mere sight of the outside effectually keeps people out. "The old library forbade, or at least discouraged, use by the general public. It was a place for the scholar and for him alone."

Mr. Joseph L. Wheeler is more outspoken in his observations about "the old-fashioned idea that a library is a mausoleum or a fortress" with windows remote and aloft and a discouragingly broad stretch of stairs which the reader must traverse before reaching the building, or a long, laborious flight inside which he has to climb before he gets up to the service counters. Even some fairly recent monumental buildings do not make "the faintest attempt to induce the man of the street to come in. This doubtless is a lingering final relic from the libraries of a half century ago, which, in turn, copied the seclusion, remoteness and monastic spirit of the Middle Ages."

Another severe indictment comes from Mr. Samuel H. Ranck, who says: "The architecture of the average library building suggests a tomb—a place for dead ones. . . . The best advertising is that which comes from a well-served patron. But our libraries have thrown away one of the best means of publicity by locating their buildings where people must go out of their way to find them, and by so arranging

them that the passerby sees nothing but stone, brick and glass—things that suggest nothing of the joy and usefulness of books. . . . Every block that separates the library from the principal lines of movement of the people, every foot that people must walk from the sidewalk to the entrance of the building and then to the books, every step that must be climbed above the level of the sidewalk to reach the first floor, are all so many hurdles, barriers, which the people are obliged to overcome before they can get to the books. . . . The bad location and arrangement of library buildings in the United States are keeping hundreds of thousands of potential users and supporters away from them and out of them every day of the year." (*American Builder*, December, 1923.)

This dark picture may well be placed alongside the one drawn by Professor Hamlin. However, it emphasizes characteristics which, fortunately, are slowly vanishing. The very men who have been most severe in their strictures are contributing most to the trend in the direction of greater consideration for people and the means for more adequate service through the instrumentality of books. The major emphasis is shifting from buildings and even books to people to such an extent that we are now talking about humanizing the library building, a phrase also of sufficient breadth and potency to take away all the sins of "institutionalism." Three years ago, at Toronto, Dr. Bostwick presented a paper on this subject which voiced a widespread sentiment.

That sentiment proclaims a larger cordiality and hospitality through visibility of the interior from the exterior, so that every man as he passes by may "see with his own eyes": "see crowds enjoying books and see attractive things in print through properly arranged show windows"; location of the building close to the sidewalk; the main entrance, "a beauty spot," on the sidewalk level without climbing long flights of steps on the outside or the inside; using the first floor as the main service floor, and so arranged that it forms an inviting book vista beginning near the entrance; admitting people directly to the largest possible number of books, and transporting them quickly to less used floors on higher or lower levels by means of public elevators. In the language of the statement outlining the principles to be embodied in the new Baltimore building, "Its very aspect must express friendliness, human understanding, closeness to the people, a large and impartial hospitality to all men."

DEPARTMENTALIZATION

Departments of various kinds have always been fundamental in library organization. There have been administrative departments; depart-

ments for groups of readers, as adults and children; departments for types of service, as reference and circulation; departments for special forms of content, as periodicals and newspapers; even departments for particular subjects, as art and technology. Subject departments have been created from time to time in growing libraries as they were warranted by the size of the collection or the public need or the size of the budget. Such departments in charge of specialists have existed for generations. What is recent about them is their increasing number and the breaking up of the otherwise compact stack arrangement and grouping the stacks according to departments. This arrangement was first introduced on a large scale in Cleveland and followed with some modifications in Los Angeles. Its essential features have been incorporated in the Baltimore plans.

Extensive departmentalization has passed the experimental stage in those libraries. By this method they have been able to develop a type of service which is the nearest approach yet reached to the librarian's ideal of personal service. The most important problem involved is that of expense. It is another case of "cost more, work more." However, by centralizing the charging and discharging of books, this cost can be reduced and the remainder centered on the more important aspects of library work. How far it will be adopted by other libraries will depend largely on the extent to which they can obtain larger appropriations.

The early meetings of the American Library Association were frequently enlivened by a discussion of antagonistic views on library buildings. The monastic, cathedral type with its lofty rooms surrounded by alcoves, galleries and balconies was championed by that great scholar, Justin Winsor. It was severely criticized by that other towering pioneer, Dr. William Frederick Poole. He advocated a type requiring a whole block of land, having the books stored not in one general repository but in a series of rooms thrown out as wings from the central part of the building, each of these rooms to contain the books on a special subject.

His ideas were finally incorporated, in part at least, in the Newberry Library. While that library has not served as a model for others, yet its ultimate plan marked a tendency in library planning, which has continued to this day in seminar and departmental rooms. Likewise, Justin Winsor's idea is still represented in the modern book tower twenty-two floors high. Thus we have a combination of these apparently antagonistic ideas resulting in ample storage for books as well as easy access and conveniences for their use.

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How to Advertise Library Service to the Business Man

By Charles H. Compton

Assistant Librarian, St. Louis Public Library, Missouri

I WROTE AN ARTICLE at one time called "Adventures in Library Advertising." I like that title. There is a great deal in the attitude you take when you approach a problem. The definite problem now is "How shall the small or medium-sized library, with not much of an income, go about getting the interest of the men of the community in the service which the library can give them in their business?" If you will approach this as an adventure, you will get a great deal of fun out of it and you will get results. Library advertising still is an adventure, for in spite of all the talk about publicity in library circles, we have not as yet won the business man; we have made some progress to be sure. Methods of library publicity are pretty well known. I do not think I can tell you anything that you do not know and know better than I do, but perhaps I can say some things that will stimulate you and myself to put some of the methods into practice. That is what counts. I, at one time for about two years, sold life insurance. The home office was continually sending us schemes that would help sell more insurance. Our superintendent had a favorite saying: "Oh, any scheme will work if you will just work it." So in library advertising, it is not that we do not know the schemes, most of us do not work them.

I made, recently, to me a very interesting experiment with our library school class of about forty. I gave them the same question that you have put to me, just to see how they would answer it. I knew that they were a bright class and to be sure I had given them instruction in library publicity, but really their answers surprised me. Most of them have never had any library experience, but they knew exactly how to go about it to interest the business man and they did not advocate expensive ways, either. They even had some suggestions not included in Mr. Wheeler's mine of information. Most of them put something else into their answers and that is enthusiasm. I wish I could read some of the things they said about personal contact and knowing your community, and one even advocated reaching the business men through their wives. In all, they advocated some fifty different methods

and in large part they were perfectly good ones. The method which was advocated most frequently was talks before business organizations, Chambers of Commerce, Rotary, Lions clubs, etc. Some of the students did not propose to wait until asked—why should they? As one of them said, a woman speaking at one of these clubs might be unusual and be the better advertising on that account. She is right in that. Personal contact was repeatedly advocated, and one of them brought out one of the best methods. "Ask advice," she said, "of the business man. Ask him if he has any books to suggest. To be true, he may not suggest them, but often he actually can help you." When I was in Seattle and we were using placards, I got the very best advice from advertising men, which they gave gladly.

Perhaps I cannot do better than to run over rapidly methods advised by these students. Special shelf of business books in library; visits to plants and factories, take recent business books along and distribute lists; survey your community and know its industries; have an interest file for borrowers and send notices of appropriate new books to them; window displays in and outside library; advertise government documents, pamphlets and house organs; use the newspapers, especially the business sections, for library news, and include reviews of business books; library exhibits at general shows, like Better Homes; organize business men's club at library; telephone men about books in which you think they would be interested. This telephone advertising, as you know, is being used widely now. The reaction might not be good for the library, but you would soon find out by trying it. What could be more direct advertising? Advertise the telephone information service of the library—nothing makes more appeal to the business man or more impression. Other methods, such as handbills, street-car cards, paid advertising, moving picture houses, etc.

Now if a class in a library school knows of these methods, why should I be telling you about them? What I am afraid of about this class is that its members may not all in five or ten years know as much as they do now about library publicity. They'll get into the routine, they will lose their enthusiasm, they will acquire a few, perhaps more, prejudices, and

Paper read before the Business Libraries Section of the A. L. A., Los Angeles, June 24, 1930.

then someone will have to come along, as I do now, and talk to them about library publicity which may or may not do any good.

There is one method in library publicity that, of course, has been touched upon, but which has never attracted the attention that it seems to me it deserves. It has brought, in my experience, surprising results. It all lies in the fact that there is practically nothing of general interest which appears in the day's news to which library news cannot be connected. This applies just as truly to happenings in the business world as in any other. I tried this out as an experiment several years ago, when I gave half my time for one month to newspaper publicity. During that time fifty-five articles appeared in the four St. Louis newspapers, being equal in space to one and a quarter pages, and of the value of \$685 at current advertising rates. To illustrate this in general, when Lindbergh made his famous flight, we easily got good publicity on the call for books on aviation, naming some of the important titles. At the time of a Better Homes show, the library had a booth and *The Globe Democrat* gave a quarter page to the kind of books the library was exhibiting there. To be more specific on business books and how the news can be secured, let me give you some definite news items. You will notice that these are short and perhaps you may not think significant. However, I believe that short articles in the papers are really very effective. Always keep in mind what the space would cost if it were paid newspaper advertising:

LIBRARY REPORTS DEMAND FOR BUILDING PLAN BOOK: In connection with the announcement of the press that St. Louis led 106 Southern cities in building permits in October, librarian Arthur E. Bostwick calls attention to the increasing demand for books on building plans and details at the Public Library.

In addition to the many volumes on home plans, house decoration and planning of grounds which are constantly called for, he said that St. Louis architects are making great use of the large and growing collection of architectural works in the art department.

CALLS FOR FINANCIAL MAGAZINES: There has been a decided increase in the call for financial magazines in the reading room at the Public Library since the recent activity in the stock market, according to Arthur E. Bostwick, the librarian. *The Wall Street Magazine* and *The Commercial and Financial Chronicle*, published weekly, are in almost constant demand. The library subscribes for many other journals containing financial news, including one daily, *The Wall Street Journal*.

The library also has many excellent books on investments, both for the investment banker and for investors. Two of special merit are *The Stock Market*, by S. S. Heubner, professor in the Wharton School of Commerce, and *Investment Analysis*, by W. E. Lagerquist, considered by many the established authority on investments.

URGES READING OF REAL ESTATE BOOKS: The use of the Public Library's books on real estate by buyer

and seller is urged by Charles H. Compton, assistant librarian. This is the time of year when the real estate market is not so brisk and is a good time for the realtor to read up on his business, according to Compton.

Persons contemplating buying a little later can get many points on how to judge a house from some of the library books on real estate. Two of the more recent books are: *Real Estate Principles and Practice*, by P. A. Benson and N. L. North, both lecturers on real estate at New York University, and *Principles of Real Estate Appraising*, by J. A. Zangerle, formerly County Assessor of Cuyahoga County, which includes the city of Cleveland.

DEMAND FOR AUTOMOBILE BOOKS AT PUBLIC LIBRARY: INFORMATION ON ROADS IN ALL PARTS OF COUNTRY AVAILABLE IN REFERENCE ROOM. The demand at the Public Library for books on automobiles, their manufacture, repair and operation is increasing rapidly. There are now in the public catalog more than 400 titles on all phases of automobile manufacture and business, as well as practical books for the man who drives and repairs his own car. Duplicate copies of many titles may be found in the branch libraries.

The library subscribes for the best automobile road books for all parts of the United States. Anyone planning a cross-country or even a week-end trip will find useful *Motor Camping*, by J. C. and J. D. Long, which, gives practical information on equipment, camps, food and health.

Now I want to give you an example of a piece of publicity which on the face of it may not seem to have much connection with business, yet it attracted the attention of one of the largest corporations in St. Louis, which made practical use of it. A statement was given out by a well-known American sociologist, which was given front page space in a newspaper, that eighty per cent of all married couples were mismatched. Far be it from me to enter into a controversy with a sociologist on such a subject, but I thought it incumbent upon me to show that the library was doing all it could to remedy this situation, if it were true, and, accordingly, I wrote a story for the newspapers.

COOK BOOKS IN GREAT DEMAND AT LIBRARY: PUBLIC SEEKS INFORMATION ON ALL PHASES OF HOME ECONOMICS. If people's reading may be used as an index to their thoughts, those who view the increasing number of divorces and women's activity in business and politics with alarm should be consoled with a report of the books most in demand in the public libraries of St. Louis. Many men are asking for cook books and records show that no class of books is in more constant demand the year around than those on all phases of home economics, according to assistant librarian C. H. Compton.

Whether this is to be taken as showing that men have decided to take woman's place in the home or whether both sexes have started a "back to the home movement," Compton does not say, but he does point out a statement by a professor of sociology to the effect that eighty per cent of all married couples in the United States are mismatched, and offers the supposition that the cause might lie in the lack of knowledge of the art of homemaking rather than inherent incompatibility, since so many people are evidently striving to perfect themselves in homemaking.

The titles of the popular books at the library suggest the interest extends beyond cooking and takes in finer points of home life. *Home Making Simplified* by Streeter; *Thousand Ways to Please a Family*, by Weaver and Lebron; *Successful Family Life on the Moderate Income*, by Abel; *Plain Sailing Cook Book*, by Browne; *Stag Cook Book*, by MacSheridan, and *Our Candy Recipes*, by Van Arsdale, are all favorites.

The library has about 400 titles on cookery in addition to many duplicate titles in the Central Library and the branches, covering cookery of all nations and special cookery for the sick.

This article immediately inspired the editorial writer of *The Globe* to write an editorial on the demand for cook books, in which he treated the subject in a light manner, but which nevertheless called attention to the very practical books which the library has on cookery.

A DEMAND FOR COOK BOOKS: The report of assistant librarian Compton that there is a heavy demand for cook books at the Public Library is an appetizing morsel of news. Both men and women, it seems, are eagerly seeking culinary enlightenment, devouring whole volumes and calling for more.

Here, truly, is food for thought. What is responsible for this craving for cook books? Has the public palate become satiated with the type of half-baked literature which the publishers have been serving, causing them to turn, as abruptly as if summoned by the old-fashioned dinner bell, to cook books. Perhaps, but there must be other reasons. The heavy demand for cook books may be the result of a general and insistent demand for lighter biscuits and other edibles, of an inner revolution that is more nearly a social revolution than that which the Communists talk about. Or it may be a welcome sign of increasing domesticity and a drawing away from the rush and rattle of modern life as centered in the cafeteria.

If so, the recipe for domestic tranquillity and the cure for the divorce evil may be found in the cook book. The applications for cook books by men is a disconcerting fact to be swallowed, but possibly this is an inevitable result of women's activities in business and politics. And the hunger for learning manifested by both sexes in their perusal of books on cooking serves as a reminder that literary taste is not the only taste which must have consideration by readers. Some such selection as Lamb's *Dissertation Upon Roast Pig* might have more literary merit than a cook book dissertation on roasting, but hardly the practical value. All of which proves the misconception of the poet in declaring that:

We may live without friends, we may live without books.

But civilized man cannot live without cooks.

He did not reckon with cook books, which are also indispensable, and in whose growing popularity there can be detected a delicious aroma commingled from juicy steaks, crisp pies, steaming puddings and other perfect dishes that would "tempt the starving anchorage to eat."

Now here comes the connection with business:

COOK BOOKS IN GREAT DEMAND AT LIBRARY

Many men are asking for cook books and records show that no class of books is in more constant demand the year around than those on all phases of home economics, according to assistant librarian C. H. Compton.—*Globe-Democrat* news story.

Come to our free cooking class at 2 p.m. today and see the mixing and baking of

NUT BREAD

SALLY LUNN

and

HONEY ROLLS

in the model kitchen

HOME SERVICE DEPARTMENT

THE LACLEDE GAS LIGHT CO.

Olive at Eleventh

Evening Class at 7:15 Tonight

Men Invited.

The principal thing in publicity, like everything else, is constantly to be on the alert for opportunities of this kind. Personally, I do not think there is any library publicity which brings such returns for the effort expended as newspaper publicity. Nevertheless, I know from experience that it is much easier to get newspaper space in some cities than in others. It certainly is easier in St. Louis than it was in Seattle.

There is another discovery which I have made: Newspapers love statistics. You notice that I did not say newspapers like statistics; the affection is much stronger than liking. We have been feeding them stories from our monthly statistics for six years and there has never been a time when at least one of the papers has not printed a story on them. We try to vary them. These stories are often only two inches in a column and then again more space is given to them, but it is not our intention to send them in extended form, for we have better success in getting them published by sending them in about the length in which we think they will be used. To give you an idea of how they can be varied in character, I might give you the headings and contents for a number of them.

NEW REGISTRATION RECORD MADE AT PUBLIC LIBRARY. This points out that 3421 new registered borrowers were added to the public library and 1788 persons renewed their cards during the month of November. Cards in force December first totaled 133,753, of which 41,356 belong to men, 48,710 to women, and 43,642 to children. Another month the heading reads: 225,215 Books in October. The public library shows 11,628 increase over the month for last year. The month shows a circulation of 6,341 per day. Of this circulation 125,000 were issued to children under fifteen years of age.

Another heading is:

LIBRARY SETS NEW MARK FOR JANUARY CIRCULATION: Fifty-two per cent were registered in branch libraries and forty-eight per cent in Central. The largest circulation in any branch was at Barr Branch with 17,263 volumes.

Another heading:

FIFTEEN BOOKS A MINUTE LOANED AT PUBLIC LIBRARY: Every four seconds that the Library and its branches are open somebody takes out a book. That means fifteen a minute or more than 11,000 daily for the month of February.

I see no reason why statistics of the use of business books and other business material would not prove successful newspaper publicity. Please remember, newspapers love statistics.

I have left the most important question to the last—undoubtedly in my opinion the most important problem facing not only the small and medium-sized library but every library. I am going to change slightly the wording of the question that has been put to me as follows: "How shall the small or medium-sized library, with not much of an advertising budget, go about getting the interest of the men of the community in the service which the library could give them in their business if it had adequate funds?" No one has answered this question. Our publicity has not been directed to this end. I think it undoubtedly can be said that it must be a combination of nationwide and local publicity. It quite rightly might be publicity sent out from A. L. A. headquar-

ters and publicity sent out by hundreds of local libraries.

With one definite suggestion, I shall conclude. The A. L. A. needs a Statistical Department, the establishment of which the Council has approved. Publicity showing the needs of libraries must be based on facts. A Statistical Department would deal with facts. We have not as yet convinced the business man or the public generally as to actual value of library service. It will, in my opinion, take many years to do this. Librarians of the Business Section of the A. L. A. are in a better position to convince the business man than the rest of us, for you deal in tangible definite material. You talk the language which he understands. So instead of answering the question which you put to me, I have left one for you to solve. This much I shall say: You have come nearer solving it in the libraries of the Pacific Coast than in many of the older, more conservative parts of our country.

The Adolescent Challenge

By Sarah Allen Beard

Children's Librarian, Brooklyn Public Library, N. Y.

ADOLESCENTS are a people elusive to understand. All the same, they merit an effort on our part to see them as they are, not as we imagine them to be. Early childhood has claimed our attention of late years by the increased emphasis on theories of education, mental and physical. The present national investigation of children bids for a renewed vision of a truly golden age. An equally large group, which belongs neither with children nor with adults, we are prone to label mentally still "green behind the ears," dismissing them with a smile save on occasions when they arouse our righteous wrath. These observations are offered in the hope of arousing or deepening a regard for the age so often called awkward and difficult.

Two pictures come to my mind. First, the group of high-school boys and girls of an average well-to-do American suburban community who trooped into the library. They came in flocks just after school was let out for the afternoon, and again at night before the movies began, taking possession of the stacks and the lobby. Within reasonable limits they were well-bred, but gigglings and flirtations cropped up spontaneously, until the librarian often sighed with relief when the "gang"

moved out with its books. One evening the librarian noticed a tall lad making remarkable sheep's-eyes through a vacant space on the book-shelves. Unseen by the boy, the librarian manoeuvred to the section where stood the lady of his affections, causing her to move on. When next the boy glanced up from the book he had been using as an ostensible decoy, he found himself gazing soulfully into the disconcerting spectacled eyes of the librarian. The change in his expression was ludicrous. Indeed, the librarian had to strive to keep her face impassive and innocent of guile. However you regard the intermediate assault on the peace and quiet of the realm of books, how different in conduct is the type of elderly borrower who lifts eyebrows at this nonsense, but in the next breath begins to chat with an acquaintance about Mrs. Z's garden party or Mr. J's fishing trip?

The second picture is a fairly large group of people being harangued from a step-ladder by a stripling lad in knickerbockers. He is followed by an immature girl who appears to be just out of grammar school. In a foreign neighborhood of an industrial city, a communist meeting of this type is a frequent sight these days. But the youthful members who form a

considerable part of these social demonstrations do not know what they want—have no real sense of values. Here are two types of adolescent with which the library meets: the one more or less sheltered through its maturing years by the school or college environment, the other a product of our modern industrial era.

We have been impressed with the importance of the first few years of early childhood as the time when future personal characteristics are molded. Perhaps you have been asked often for the latest books on child-psychology and training. By the time the adolescent age is reached imperceptibly, enthusiasm has died down on the part of the parents. Apparently they give up the chase in helpless resignation. A wide-awake, intelligent woman, who was active in the community, said to me in exasperation one day: "Perhaps my daughter will believe you, if you tell her such a book is trash. She won't take anything I say." The daughter flushed a becoming pink and of course stuck to her choice. The very thing the adolescent needs is denied, not intentionally, but because of the tradition that youth is in need of discipline and conformity. A member of the medical profession has suggested that there has been an apparent unwillingness to view this problem as one concerned primarily with the environment and the faults of our present structure in its effect upon growing young people.¹ If institutions and people were more aware of their own defects, exhibited in hidebound opinions, lack of sympathy with views other than their own, there would be more constructive encouragement of the positive tendencies of this impressionable age.

The public library has the opportunity of becoming an increasingly important part of the social environment of youth as the field of knowledge widens and the machine age gives us all a larger proportion of leisure. It is a definite challenge to be met. The young person of today is mentally older than we were at the identical period. If you doubt this, compare with that of your own day the content of the studies which concern the present high-school generation. They all must have wider horizons and a freer range of ideas as a result of this broad acquaintance with various types of books. The youngest member of a large family picks up all the big words his older brothers and sisters use. The human race as it progresses is much like that. The difficulty for us is to keep a step ahead, until youth settles down into the fixed patterns of life, as most of us do sooner or later.

¹ Schwab, S. I. and Veeder, B. S., *Adolescent*, 1929.

In theory, at least, surely we all agree that everything the library possesses of value should be available to the young whenever they reach out for information or turn to us for their recreational reading. If we can hold their interest over the period of development or leave an impression of friendly cooperation in time of need, we shall be assured later, to our mutual benefit, a generation of library-users. Michelangelo at sixteen was working in the Medici Palace. Lafayette sailed to the help of the American colonies at nineteen. Peter Cooper at eighteen determined some day to build what is now the Cooper Union. Such examples should open our eyes to the latent possibilities of the youth we serve.

Adolescence has been defined as that part of a human being's life containing the dynamics of future development along lines of the utmost achievement of which he is capable, no matter how notable or insignificant that achievement may be. Because life is a continuous process in growth, childhood, adolescence and full maturity merge insensibly one into the other. Along with physical changes there is an increase in intellectual acquisitiveness, although often these do not correlate. The adolescent strives to accomplish before he is able to achieve. At the beginning of this increased power of mental absorption he seems to us more than usually stupid or dull. A sense of personal awareness, which marks the development of a primitive beginning of introspection, is asserting itself, with its effect on the formation of the inner life where are grouped the things that seem most precious and worth-while. The richness and variety of this inner world differ immensely, but some trace of it is always to be found, even in the dullest. The question mark is more important than the period to youth. And when the world is apparently misunderstanding, the adolescent turns away from reality into a more glorious and fascinating place in his own mind. There he walks heroic, the center of things, a pastime called by elders day-dreaming. There is, too, a reawakening of childish fears in the presence of a world more definitely present but less understood. This reveals itself in the shyness, awkwardness, reserve, and other qualities familiar to us.

There comes a moment when the adolescent becomes partially or completely aware that he is living in a world made up of socially rigid structures. The world he sees through the local grouping of relatives, friends, and people with whom he has repeated contact. This group is relatively unchangeable, whereas the adolescent personality is growing and constantly developing. In place of blind obedience and acceptance, the spirit of inquiry is

outstanding in youth, because he is attempting to establish the material of his beliefs on a basis essentially his own. There is a distinct difference to be grasped between mere disobedience and the apparent adolescent refusal to conform. Although he begins to question the source which supplies the materials of his beliefs, the undercurrent of criticism directed by it against other groups not like-minded is an important element in his personal reaction to the social organization of which he is a unit. This is where establishment of the spirit of tolerance, so very important for society and the individual, so often fails, because of a lack in the environment. At this period of life, with its sharpened realization of beauty and concepts of ideas larger than self, there should be the freest play of the spirit for its own sake. Those who continue their formal education have here a far better chance than the young people who enter industrial life early. We are apt to pass over this latter group in the library, thinking that little can be done for them.

Thomas Burke has written of his experience at seventeen in a lodging-house where he was so miserably lonely that he saw all things in a bitter light. The sight of wealth aroused in him a helpless rage. Oppressed by dull routine, he seemed a mere cog in the vastness of industrial machinery. This sort of thing explains the youthful rebel against society. Burke observes that youth is regarded in the abstract as a time of dreams, with new things waiting for discovery at every corner. Its only claim is that it is the starting point. No one ever really wants to repeat the spiritual unrest, the chafing of the soul, of that time.

The adolescent finds an escape from his environment in one of various ways: most often by conformity, frequently by running away mentally or actually. Rationalization is rare. The intellectual complaisance of this type of adolescent is difficult for us to understand, and we are apt to have less patience with him. The most interesting group is that which cultivates a special interest. With an intense enthusiasm the young person forms a liking for subjects which seem often trivial or queerly selected. At this point the library can lend a sympathetic and helping hand. What are the means of holding this quicksilver-like group? Whatever our understanding of the age in general, an understanding of the individual is necessary for the greatest success. Although it is a wise policy for all ages, we should treat particularly the adolescent borrower as an individual.

We begin our work with the idea of personal interest in human beings, but desk-routine and the multitudinous demands made upon us make

it very easy after a time to drop into the self-protecting shell of the mechanical library robot. Sometimes this is conscious. Often it is unconscious. In the person on the other side of the desk it produces several different reactions, all of them unfavorable. A friend was skeptical when I decided to go into library-work. She said she never dared in high-school days to ask the public librarian to help her find a book, because she always looked either forbidding or too busy. So it is well to keep a friendly eye out for the type we often see wandering about as though they were in the Minotaur's maze. If you have several people on the staff, it is a happy solution to have one assistant responsible for the adolescent group.

If a friendly outgoing spirit pervades your library, that is a good beginning. The next step is to create an attractive library environment. To the age that begins to take great pride in clothes and doing the right thing, an attractive room means more, just then, than at any other time in life. In the intermediate department of the Brownsville Children's Branch, Brooklyn Public Library, the simple curtains at casement windows, the growing plants, and an odd piece of pottery here and there, have no small part in ministering to the aesthetic needs of the young people of that crowded neighborhood. The modern business world no longer makes its stores and offices as bare as a laboratory. When we think of the sometimes really beautiful interiors and conveniences that make shopping a pleasurable task for the patrons of a particular establishment, we might well take a leaf from their notebook. It is not a matter of expensive equipment necessarily. Simplicity and order and fresh air that drives away the musty, bookish air which thrives in libraries, a flower, or a lovely picture, are really all one needs to create an atmosphere that actually entices people to take an extra book along.

This brings us to the basic material for which we exist as an institution. The modern young person demands facts. This is manifest in his choice of realistic fiction, biographies, and informative books of various types, particularly in the field of science. It is no longer enough to supply the traditional collections of standard novels. There should be no idea of compulsion about reading them to discourage a budding literary taste. But they should be present in the most attractive editions you can lay your hands on, with readable print and fine illustrations. There should be with these also unusual worth-while books not so well known. Recent books should be promptly tried out. Now and then there can be ar-

ranged table exhibits of books on a subject of interest to adolescents.

The other day a slip of a girl came in and asked for a history of philosophy used in a university course. She explained she was writing a short story and needed the philosophy for the background. Not having the book at hand, I offered a volume of Maeterlinck's *Essays* which was on the shelf. The girl looked over the contents-page rapidly, and read the chapter-headings—the awakening of the soul, the inner beauty, and the like—and with eyes shining, exclaimed she could use that, and went off with it. You may think she was a bit exceptional. She didn't look it. To mention a different type, there was the seventh-grader who read everything she could find on animals and nature in the children's room. When that collection was exhausted, I started her on the adult collection. She was an instance of the pre-adolescent with a special interest; and in her case it would have been unwise to forbid excursions into the adult department, simply because she was of a certain age.

Someone has said that the ideal possession of any library would be to have a room where people from eight to eighty years would find

something to enjoy. There are books like that. You will remember, in *Journey's End*, where Lieutenant Osborne is asked by the unimaginative Trotter what he is reading. He hands the book over (it is *Alice in Wonderland*), saying: "Ever read it?" Trotter replies with a silly grin: "That? Naw. Why, that's a kid's book." And then Osborne quotes something from it that makes them both laugh and forget for the moment the ghastly war outside the dugout. If this sort of room is beyond your reach, for one reason or another, in any event do not make the adult department forbidden to youth, but only a more difficult land to be explored when they are worthy of it.

Antagonism, ridicule, or objection, which the adolescent meets with inevitably in his daily life, surely can be banished in the library whose wares represent the free play of ideas. I am not advocating that you make the adolescent feel he is the most important person who enters your portals—only that you treat him with tolerance and forbearance as an individual, from the brightest to the dullest. You will find it an experiment that rewards you with endless interest and makes the bookshelves shine in youth's eyes with reflected glory.

A Change for the Better

By Rebecca B. Rankin

Librarian, New York Municipal Reference Library

SOME YEARS AGO, seventeen to be exact, a Municipal Reference Library was established by the City of New York. At first, it was created as a bureau in the Department of Finance under Comptroller Prendergast and occupied two rooms with that Department at 280 Broadway. Within a year or so, the Municipal Reference Library was moved, as were all Departments of the city government, into the newly completed Municipal Building. The Library was assigned to quarters on the Fifth Floor near the Comptroller's office. By this time, the supervision of the Municipal Reference Library had been transferred to the New York Public Library which agreed to administer the library primarily for city officials and employees, and the city assumed responsibility for its financial support and for the housing of it.

The Municipal Reference Library began with a very modest collection of books—the nucleus being the books already in the Finance Department. It was augmented by the addition of the City Clerk's library, and by gifts

from all departments, acquisitions from the New York Public Library and the Bureau of Municipal Research. These books and documents collected and selected with care formed the basis of the Library's growing collection.

The Library's field of specialization has been carefully limited in order that the needs of the city officials and employees may be best served. During the years the acquisitions have been made with the uses to which material might be put always in view. It has been the purpose of the librarian to keep a working collection—and to keep the collection as small as possible and at the same time consistent with demands. The growth in number of books and pamphlets, even under such strict limitations, is from approximately five thousand volumes in 1913 to fifty thousand in 1930.

The selection of printed material for the Municipal Reference Library falls into these general divisions:

1. Publications of the City of New York.
2. Publications about the City of New York by civic organizations and others.

3. State of New York documents affecting city affairs.
4. Maps, atlases, charts of or about New York.
5. New York City history and biography.
6. Publications of and about all cities of the world above 100,000 in population.
7. Other States' publications affecting municipalities.
8. Periodicals touching any field of civic activity.
9. Books on all subjects pertaining to municipal government in its many aspects, as finance, accounting, law, police, fire, public welfare, etc., etc.
10. United States government publications relating to municipal affairs.



The Municipal Building, New York City, in Which Is Housed the Municipal Reference Library

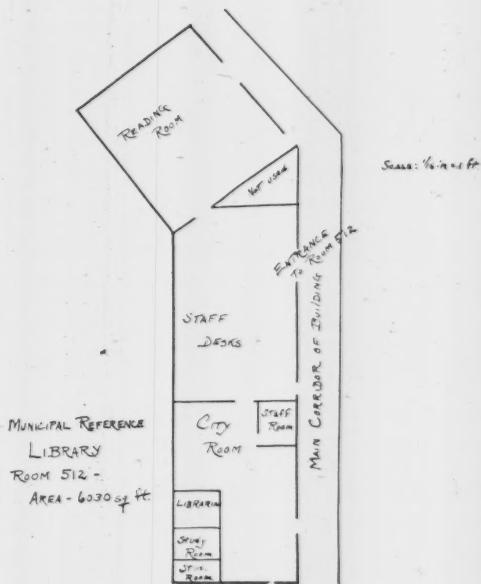
It is not necessary to mention that ephemeral material as pamphlets and newspapers and serials of all kinds are included in these types of acquisitions.

As the Library aims to have on its own shelves the minimum amount of material consistent with efficient service to the city departments, and officials, material is borrowed freely from other libraries, both public and special. The cooperation extended by all the libraries in New York City is quite remarkable. In lieu of a large collection of books, the library aims to have an adequate collection of bibliographical aids from which the important publications on any subject can be located quickly. The library itself compiles many bibliographies on special subjects: many are printed and others mimeographed for distribution.

In the Library's quarters on the Fifth Floor in the Municipal Building, the collection had outgrown the capacity of its three large rooms. The total space of 6030 square feet housed on

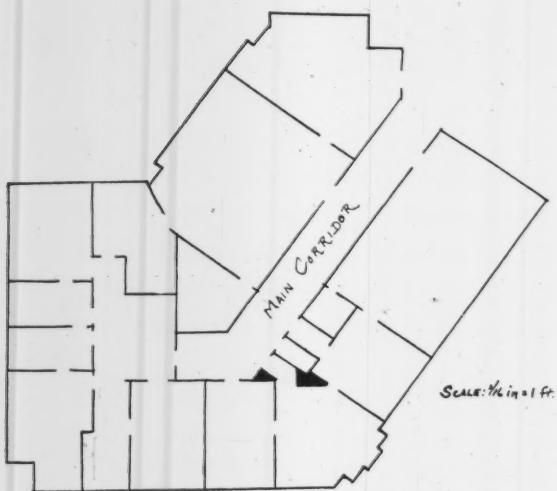
open shelves the fifty-thousand volumes and provided as well, reading rooms for dozens of city employees. Every inch was used; and still the library was crowded in both shelving and table space. The problem of increasing the shelving was an imminent one and was under consideration by the librarian.

At this time, early in 1930, many of the city departments were likewise facing the problem of overcrowding. Therefore the Sinking Fund Commission, the official body which allotts space in the Building, made a thorough survey of the situation, and the requests of departments for additional space were considered. The result was the relocation of many bureaus and departments. The Finance Department needed much additional space due to its increased staff and additional functions and as the Library was located on the Fifth Floor with that Department, it was found necessary to move the Library. Space on the Twenty-Second floor of the Municipal Building was



assigned to the Library by the Sinking Fund Commission. The choice of the librarian for the southern end of the building was graciously granted. An increase in floor area of twenty-five per cent was provided for by the Commission.

From February until May, the librarian was occupied in drawing plans for arrangement of the new quarters. She was given freedom to arrange the given area in any way desired, only not to change structural building sup-



*Plan of space on 22nd Floor
assigned to MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARY.
Before moving.*

ports. However, as few as possible structural changes were made because it would mean more expense and more time for mechanical work. A wide public corridor divided the space allotted but the authorities granted the privilege of incorporating this space into the library rooms. This increased by 600 square feet the original floor area allotted.

The mechanical work of preparing the new quarters for the Library in accordance with the plans of the librarian proceeded rapidly. Walls were torn down in some places, new ones erected in others, doors cut, electrical wiring was installed, telephone wires put in, walls repainted, woodwork cleaned and polished, radiators regilded, new lighting fixtures hung; and after the book collection was moved, new cork tile floors were laid, and new window shades hung. No details were overlooked and there were hundreds of them to be taken care of. This work under the supervision of the Borough President of Manhattan's Office and the Comptroller's Office was efficiently executed.

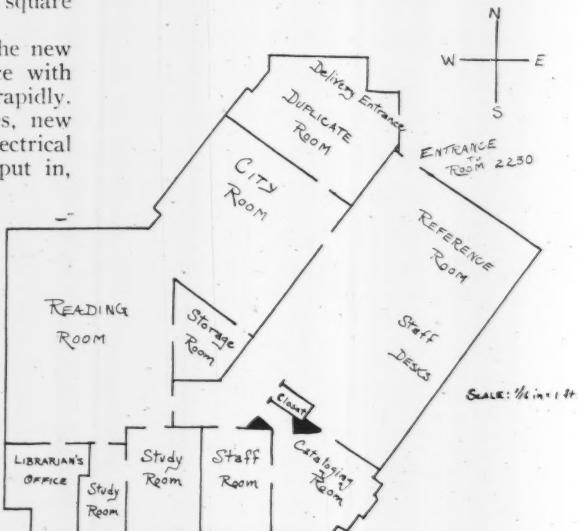
A comparison of the floor plan of the south end of the Twenty-Second Floor before the Municipal Reference Library moved in and after it was installed in accordance with its plan may interest librarians. The same steel shelving erected on the Fifth Floor by the Library Bureau in 1914 was taken down and reset on

the Twenty-Second Floor. Some new shelving was added in two rooms. The same library furniture is used. But the net result is a very different library. It is felt that many improvements have been made, as the rough drafts of plans accompanying this article illustrate.

Twenty-two stories above the street and above neighboring buildings provide excellent light and air and sunshine. With windows to the east, the south and the west and even to the north, the library is unusually fortunate. Every desk and every reading table is beside a window. The stacks have all been set in the center of building, leaving the space along the windows on all four sides available to the public and staff. No stack is longer than eighteen feet and the daylight penetrates to the center of the stacks. At this height the views over the city, overlooking City Hall Park, the East River and the North River, are excellent. The towers of lower New York

as well as mid-Manhattan's are fascinating sights to the readers in the Municipal Reference Library.

The moving of a library of fifty thousand volumes is considerable of a task. A careful planning is the important element. The plan



*MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARY
ROOM 2230 MUNICIPAL BUILDING
NEW YORK CITY*

After moving

Area - 7730 sq. ft.

of the old library was laid out showing on the diagram the actual footage of books on every shelf—and the same amount of footage was transferred to the shelving on the new plan. It was known in advance the exact placing of all classes of books. Expansion was allowed for. The order of moving was scheduled as carefully. The great difficulty was that the steel stacks from the Fifth Floor had to be taken down; therefore the books had to come off before the stacks themselves came down. Time also had to be allowed for the resetting of the stacks before books could be replaced on the shelves. This difficulty was partly overcome by the fact that we had some new stacks which were erected first. The books to fill those particular stacks were moved first, and the stacks then emptied were taken down and reset on the Twenty-Second Floor, and those in turn filled. It was soon discovered that the stacks could not be knocked down and reset with as great rapidity as the books could be moved. Therefore the method of moving the books had to be revamped to suit the conditions.

A truck specially designed by an engineer in the Borough President's office was ideal for moving the books. Each truck had a body, perfectly balanced on a heavy six-wheel base, made of four 3-foot shelves on each side—eight shelves in all. One truck would carry more than a section of seven shelves. The truck could be pulled by one man, met at its destination by another helper, and the two emptied the truck in a very few minutes. Three or four trucks were kept going in a steady stream by two fillers, three or four men to pull, and two to empty. About one-third of the book collection was moved in this expeditious way.

When the moving progressed faster than stack erection, boxes were resorted to. Each wooden box held one shelf of books and ONE ONLY. The packing and labelling of every box was supervised by a member of the staff. The boxes on arrival at the new library were stacked in order near the spot where the stack was to be erected and the books were to be placed, supervised by a member of staff fully

instructed in advance. The first third of the library which was moved on the trucks was done in parts of four days. The two-thirds packed in boxes were moved by a large corps of professional movers in less than three days. This included as well the moving of all library furniture and equipment. During the whole process of moving the books were always available, even though still packed in boxes because the boxes were placed on their sides (*à la war day fashion*) except for a few days while cork tile floors were being laid. The majority of stacks were taken down and moved upstairs in the same three days that the books were moved. The erection of the stacks, due to waiting for some minor parts, consumed the most part of a month. But library service was continued through it all. The laying of the flooring after the stacks were erected was the great hindrance to a settled condition, as it was necessary in some cases to handle furniture three or four times. The delay in the laying of the floor was the only mechanical part of the preparation which did not go according to schedule; it caused the only confusion in the moving, and was the only item which prevented the library from giving continuous service during the period of moving. None of the library's activities were discontinued; the *Notes* were published regularly each week, and the radio talks were uninterrupted. All of this was accomplished by careful planning, and through the almost super-human efforts of every member of the staff who worked long and laboriously and harmoniously. The splendid cooperation accorded the Library by the city departments, particularly Comptroller Berry and his assistants in the Department of Finance, and Borough President Miller and his staff explains the smoothness with which a project of this kind could be accomplished.

The Municipal Reference Library in its more commodious and pleasant quarters aims to give even better service than previously. The appreciation for the Library by the city officials which is shown by their ample provision for it shall be doubled, we hope, by the Library's continuous good service.



THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

November 15, 1930

Editorial Forum

THE MID-WINTER MEETING at Chicago will be of unusual interest because of the expected report from the Committee on A. L. A. Activities, headed by Charles H. Compton, assistant librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, as chairman, in association with Miss Gratia A. Countryman, Minneapolis librarian, and H. H. B. Meyer, chief bibliographer of the Library of Congress. This committee gave concentrated attention through a two-day session to the current criticisms and suggestions in part elicited in response to inquiries sent out by the committee, and it has prepared a careful report which will be printed sufficiently in advance of the December meeting of the Council for full consideration and comment by all A. L. A. members. The committee has gone thoroughly into Headquarters methods, has attended meetings of the Executive Board and of several of the leading committees, and has in every way endeavored to obtain a full conspectus of A. L. A. operations. It is to be a full and frank statement of fact-finding and suggestion, and should be met as frankly throughout the Association, not with a spirit of carping criticism but of helpful cooperation in obtaining the best results possible from the remarkable organization which the A. L. A. has developed in the library field. Nothing better could be hoped for in the interest of the profession.

but in his mental all-roundness. The scientists are regretting the narrowing effect of specialization. Librarians must be even more concerned with the matter of reading widely outside as much as inside their subject. The despairing cry "Too much knowledge" is prompted by fear and self-defense—fear that we are "slipping," and that others are forging ahead in activities of which we cannot even be informed. The new quarterly is needed if for nothing more than to give space for extended bibliographies, statistical studies and other lengthy material which the existing library periodicals have not been able to include. All of this is distinctly to the good. As librarians, we expound daily to others the doctrine of the value of facts. Our profession needs nothing so much as elaborate studies as to how and what we are doing and should do.

J. L. W.

HERE IS an immediate and pressing need for a more dynamic view of librarianship. Both schools and libraries are called upon to help the masses of our people in their adjustment to the new conditions of our civilization. The changes are rapid and far-reaching in both city and country. They call for field workers attached to both libraries and schools who will be charged with doing new things and making new contacts. We cannot claim to be civilized so long as any of our people are handicapped in the race of life as a result of ignorance. During this period of unemployment, much of which is chronic, in almost every field the creative occupations, such as teaching and librarianship, should rapidly expand. Hundreds of thousands of workers will be added in these fields within a relatively few years.—J. E. M.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT of *The Library Quarterly* marks one more wave of the overwhelming flood of professional literature. Those who feel overwhelmed by the vast amount of important and inviting printed matter must realize that in every important field there is the same situation. Each individual has to select, and to confine his actual reading to that which will develop him not only in his work,

MISS HAND'S studies of university library costs, in a recent issue of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, are deserving of careful analysis by public as well as university librarians. In the present economic depression, when several libraries face possible cuts, few of them have had a "searching of hearts" to see how they could more effectively spend the money they have. Book funds are cut first; employees are dropped as a last resort. Unless libraries change ears from optimistic generalities about their own work to critical analysis of its de-

tails, and a justification of them in comparison with those followed elsewhere, the profession will continue to suffer from the opinion too frequently held by the public that, while worthwhile, the library is not especially effective or efficient. New and ideal standards of method and economy will eventually be set up by dispassionate specialists in method, prompted by the conviction that nothing is done, as yet, as well as it may be. There is a certain school of librarians which immediately rises to depreciate anything in the way of "efficiency." Like William Jennings Bryan, when faced with the facts of science, they immediately resort to a cry of heresy, in our case the phrase being "How about our precious scholarship?" Miss Hand's studies of costs and efficiency in a library which has the reputation of encouraging scholarship, should go a long way to prove that scholarship and effective methods are just as good comrades as are science and religion.

J. L. W.



GREAT CREDIT should be given to the indefatigable efforts of Prof. E. C. Richardson, now consultant in the Library of Congress, in endeavoring to place at the service of scholars the resources of the entire world, not only of printed books but of manuscripts as well, and his appeal for the cooperation of libraries should be met by all in the heartiest spirit. His ideal is that a research student should be able to find out where are to be had the unusual books often most important for purposes of research. These unusual books, it should be remembered, are often to be found in less known libraries and in unexpected quarters, and, therefore, even the smallest library should not fail to look over its local collections and send at least shortest title cards to the Library of Congress to learn if such titles are already on record. These pointers should be followed up by master cards giving full title and information in the case of books where it is found desirable to add them to the Union Catalog already exceeding three million titles. As this scheme is worked out in the United States it will doubtless be met by similar work in other countries, and cards exchanged on an international arrangement which will ultimately put any student in any country in possession of the means of finding all the material available on any specific subject. This is one of the consummations devoutly to be wished as library progress continues throughout the world.

TWO MEMORIAL VOLUMES, worthy of their subjects, emphasize the library service of two men who have contributed effectively to library progress. Charles Pratt, the elder, founder of the Pratt Institute of Brooklyn, provided in connection with it for a "free library for the citizens of Brooklyn" at a time when the old Brooklyn Library, a development of its Mercantile Library, was the chief lending library in Brooklyn, and previous to the proposals to make that library a free library and before the organization through President Boody of the Brooklyn Public Library. The centenary of his birth has afforded fitting occasion to issue the memorial volume, a contribution to library history which comes properly as a publication of the Pratt Institute. The memorial volume for John Cotton Dana, prepared by his successor, Beatrice Winser, includes the numerous appreciations of his great career from library leaders as well as the editorials of the press which his death called forth and which form noteworthy evidence both of the mark which Mr. Dana had made upon his generation and of the growing importance of library development in the public eye as made manifest through the press. It is well that such great services should be thus worthily remembered, but it is not to be forgotten that many librarians pass from us, who in their lesser ways have also made their mark and done good service, the latest of these to go being Miss Myra Poland of the Wilkes-Barre Public Library, who has been the worthy successor in that library of Hannah P. James of happy memory.



THE NAME OF GILLIS will always be associated with the development of the California State Library, and it is gratifying to note that Miss Mabel Gillis, daughter of James Louis Gillis, State librarian 1899-1917, has been appointed, as was expected, to succeed Milton J. Ferguson in the office which her father honored and made notable. Miss Gillis, after the death of her father and the appointment of Mr. Ferguson to succeed him, became assistant librarian, and during Mr. Ferguson's absence for library service in South Africa was the acting State librarian. The appointment is a yearly one in the hands of California's governor, and during Mr. Ferguson's year of absence the governor of that date proffered the post to Miss Gillis, who promptly declined to consider it in loyalty to her absent chief. Miss Gillis' elevation to full executive responsibility adds to the testimony of the ability of women as chief executives in the library field.

Librarian Authors

INA TEN EYCK FIRKINS was born in Minneapolis and attended the public schools in that city. She graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1888 and the following year was appointed to a position in her Alma Mater. Except for an occasional leave of absence for work or travel, she has remained in this library ever since, her position and her duties changing with the development of the library. Since 1900 she has been reference librarian and in this position has been a very great help to the faculty and to the students, especially the graduate students. She has a fine critical ability and appreciates the best in literature.

Miss Firkins does not call herself an author, but rather a compiler. Her indexes and bibliographies have been the direct growth of needs in her own library and she states, have been undertaken to save herself labor. "After having looked through the works of Kipling, O. Henry, or Maupassant about four hundred times to locate a particular story it naturally occurred to me that it would be the part of economy to make a list of the stories of popular authors and have it on my desk for quick reference. This list presently grew to such proportions that it seemed worth while to expand it and compile a systematic Index to Short Stories. Having compiled that work the Index to Plays was the logical sequel. But in carrying on this work I have found that I have been caught in an endless chain. To index stories and plays has now become an automatic process and perhaps for me it will solve the question which was a recent contribution to THE LIBRARY JOURNAL 'What Shall We Do With Our Old Librarians?'"

The published works of Miss Firkins are as follows: *Index to Short Stories*, 1915; *Index to Short Stories*, Second Edition, 1923; *Index to Short Stories*, Supplement, 1929; *Index to Plays*, 1800-1926, 1928; and *Hendrik Ibsen, A Bibliography of Criticism and Biography With An Index to Character*, 1921. During 1914-1916 she compiled a series of bibliographies on *Foreigners In The United States* which were published in the *Bulletin of Bibliography* and in 1916 she edited the *Poems* of her brother, Chester, who died young. She is the sister of Oscar Firkins, who is professor of literature in the University of Minnesota and a well known biographer and poet.

During the interim between Mr. Gerould's departure and Mr. Walter's coming as librarian to the University of Minnesota, Miss Firkins superintended the building of the new library building, its furnishing, general organization,



INA TEN EYCK FIRKINS

and the preparations for moving. Miss Firkins feels that her life has perhaps been unique in that nothing has ever happened to her. "I have had no thrilling adventures but have been carried along the stream of experience by the current of circumstance. My life could not have been less dramatic; it might be summed up thus—she was born, she lives, she will die. To be asked for my biography embarrasses me because it is humiliating to admit, publicly, that one has had no history. That may be the happiest condition for a nation but it is certainly a dull one for an individual."

This is the twenty-sixth biography of a librarian author, the series of which began in the Oct. 1, 1929, issue of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL. Future issues will contain biographies of such librarians as Arthur E. Bostwick, Henry O. Severance, Elizabeth Janet Gray, Lawrence J. Burpee, Francis Jenkins Olcott and many others.

School Library News

A Book Week Bookmark Suggestion



Book Week, Nov. 16-22

Read Biography

1. For sheer delight. The drama of life has eternal fascinations. Biography eliminates the unpleasant in our living contacts and keeps the desirable and precious. Biography offers human contacts in the most amiable form.

2. Biography brings us into the presence of people worth meeting. We may see their mistakes, work out their philosophy of life, meet their sorrows and examine their problems.

3. Biography supplies a knowledge of history. We see history from the viewpoint of the actors, go through the thrills of their successes and the dull threads of dissolution. Other things change. Human nature changes little.

4. Biography gives us a wide perspective around our own problems, helps us to feel at home and to face life. Biography is challenging.

5. Biography gives the average reader an introduction to the world's great literature, art and music. A poem may be beautiful, but to appreciate it we need to know the problems of the author.

Senior High School

Altoona, Pennsylvania

Library Club of the
Girls' League

School Libraries in the Philippines

EACH YEAR sees a steady increase in the number of school libraries established in the Philippine Islands and in the efficiency with which they are administered. At present the public schools are maintaining 4,697 libraries with a total of 1,602,546 volumes. Due to the employment of properly qualified librarians, the conferences of librarians held in the General Office, Department of Public Instruction, in 1927 and 1928, and the close supervision given these librarians this year, the school librarians are now being placed on a standard basis. In secondary-academic and normal schools, teachers with library training and broad educational qualifications are assigned as full-time librarians. On the other hand, in rural schools, trade schools, and in large elementary schools teacher-librarians may still be found.

The open-shelf system was inaugurated last year in one high school. The students were given more freedom in choosing their books; magazines and newspapers were more freely read; and the usefulness of the library increased a hundredfold. But under present accounting regulations this system appears to be a risky undertaking for the librarians, inasmuch as release from personal responsibility for lost books is almost impossible to obtain. Classroom libraries have been extended to nearly all elementary schools, and in these schools they are gradually becoming as important as the general library.

Picture Collection

AS TEACHERS were always requesting pictures for classroom use, the Burlington, Iowa, High School and Junior College began to build up their picture collection until it now contains very lovely illustrations of the Oregon Trail, King Arthur, Myths, Shakespeare and many others, all mounted ready for use. The teachers know where the pictures are and how they are filed and can fill their own needs. They also keep a watchful eye out for references to pictures that would help them in their work and might be added to the collection.

The library also purchases editions of the classics taught in the school and many of the recreation reading books. Two or three times a year all these books are placed on a display table and the students enjoy looking them over. They are not circulated, but any teacher may take one or two into her classroom for discussion.

Current Library Literature

AUCKLAND (N. Z.) PUBLIC LIBRARIES. *See* LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barwick, G. F. Bibliographical societies and bibliography. *The Library*. n.s. 11:151-159. 1930. (Transactions of the Bibliographical Society).

"This is a very brief and sketchy account of the activities of the bibliographical societies of the world, so far as I have been able to discover them, and my object in bringing them before you is to show the amount of good work that is being done and to suggest that the special articles might be indexed. The numerous papers on special books and special printers are completely buried; no Poole brings them to the surface. I am glad to note in this connection that an index to the ten volumes of our Transactions issued since their amalgamation with *The Library* will shortly be put in hand."

England, G. A. Special tools. *Special Libs.* 21:295-301. 1930.

"*Special Tools*, one might say, are those compilations of data and sources of information which are not, as a rule, issued by the usual publishing houses with customary attendant publicity, nor in the usual form, and which cover a special and particular field, sometimes only a minute portion of a field. They provide that 'quicker and easier access to facts' which Mr. Dana so aptly characterized in his paper on 'Facts' as 'the greatest need of today.' They are those indexes, compilations, handbooks, directories and summaries which unlock the doors to otherwise inaccessible information." Many of these are particularized and described.

BOOK WAGON DELIVERY

Queens Borough (N. Y.) Public Library. *The Queens Borough Public Library Presents to the People of Queens Borough The Pioneer*. illus. maps. pap. [16p.]

Christened by Mayor Walker on April 11, 1930, the "Pioneer," as the book bus is called, travels to twenty or more suburbs in Queens Borough each week. Books are selected from a reserve collection of 10,000 volumes at the central library building.

BOOK WEEK

Book Week celebrations. *LIB. JOUR.* illus. 55:816-819. 1930.

Reports from Alhambra, Berkeley and Sacramento, Cal.; East Orange, N. J.; Louisville, Ky., etc.

Hunt, C. W. Children's Book Week: an appraisal of activities. *LIB. JOUR.* 55:809-811. 1930.

Reprinted from *Children's Library Yearbook*, Number Two. "I have been slowly but thoroughly converted by the work of our Brooklyn librarians to a belief in the possibilities of this annual celebration. But to believe warmly in the general purpose of a project is not necessarily to subscribe to all the methods employed by its supporters. A thing that impressed me in reading the glowing reports was that so many librarians let themselves be used by other agencies to carry out schemes many of which were, to my mind, out of harmony with the librarian's own job. I cannot imagine any librarian who takes the time to know her books thoroughly having so much time left to assist in these projects."

BOYS. *See* LIBRARY WORK WITH SPECIAL CLASSES OF CHILDREN.

BRITISH LIBRARY OF INFORMATION

Fletcher, Angus. The British Library of Information. *Special Libs.* 21:287-289. 1930.

"The British Library [in New York City] exists chiefly as a source of reference through which this mass of

Intended to index with brief annotation, or excerpts when desirable, articles in library periodicals, books on libraries and library economy and other material of interest to the profession. The subject headings follow those in Cannons' *Bibliography of Library Economy*, to which this department makes a continuing supplement. Readers are requested to note and supply omissions and make suggestions as to the development of this department.

information may become known, and its proper function is to make it as easily accessible as possible. In a great many instances it can digest information to some extent, and it is always willing to do its best in that direction. But to many inquiries the only satisfactory solution is possession of the document or documents in question; the British Library is the official agent for the sale in the United States of British Government Documents. The price charged is the published price, plus a very small addition to cover the cost of importation. . . . It is often possible to arrange in urgent cases for one of the library copies to be lent until the purchased document arrives and, of course, documents are issued on inter-library loan in the usual way."

CATALOGING

Steward, A. V. On cataloguing. *Lib. World*. 33:96, 98, 100-102. 1930. Conclusion.

"What would be an ideal state of affairs? In all large libraries, cataloguing departments should be installed, with an interchange of assistants from the public departments. In such libraries assistants in all departments should be permitted at definite times to study the books, new and old, that are flowing into the library system. . . . Turning to the small libraries, the only way of releasing them from the hurry and scurry of their present existence seems to be the formation of a central cataloguing bureau, an accomplished fact in America, but still far from realization in England."

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK. *See* BOOK WEEK.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Books to Read; a Classified and Annotated Catalogue; Being a Guide for Young Readers. Compiled by a committee representing the Library Association, the National Association of Boys' Clubs, the National Council of Girls' Clubs, and the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. 26-27 Bedford Square, London, W.C. 1: The Library Association, 1930. cl. 574p.

In three parts: Authors and titles of books; Books arranged by subjects (with an author list of fiction); Alphabetical index to subjects. Published with the assistance of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. A collection of the books in the Catalogue has been formed at 26, Bedford Square, London, the headquarters of the National Council of Social Service (in cooperation with the Library Association, whose offices are in the same building).

Engle, E. R. Children's books and the budget. *Wilson Bull.* 5:183-185. 1930.

"It is my personal conviction, based on experience, that the active Children's Room adding twenty-five titles from the new publications each year is keeping well up-to-date."

Lee, Emma. Children's books by Southern writers. *LIB. JOUR.* 55:812-814. 1930.

Joel Chandler Harris, Maud Lindsay, Archibald Rutledge, Sidney Lanier, Louise Connolly, Helen Coale Crew, etc.

CHILDREN'S READING

Nolen, Barbara. A balanced diet in children's books. Menasha, Wis. American Association of University Women. *Journal*. 24:20-23. 1930.

"With increased production of children's books, with the movies, with the quickened tempo of modern life, children have developed a greater consumption of books, until some mothers are at their wits' end to keep them supplied. Children of nine are demanding thicker and longer books, in contrast to the request of even two years ago for 'easy reading' for children of eight. My experience is that a new age limit has been set by the children themselves. Those over twelve are reading adult books, while the youngsters are devouring so-called 'juveniles' as fast as they are published. The interesting fact in regard to this state of affairs is that these young readers have strictly cosmopolitan tastes. Their choice falls often on the book of the hour." The writer cautions against too great emphasis on "international" books, to the exclusion of books dealing with scenes familiar to the child's own experience.

COLLEGE LIBRARIES. *See* JUNIOR COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

COUNTY LIBRARIES. See RURAL SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION

Gilmore, A. F. Our library; a Dewey Decimal play. illus. *Wilson Bull.* 5:186-191. 1930.

A play for children's presentation, allowing opportunity for elaborate costuming as desired and a cast of sixty or less.

FOSTER, WILLIAM EATON, 1851-1930

William Eaton Foster. por. *Books for All.* 5:206-209. 1930.

Tributes to the late Librarian-Emeritus of the Providence (R. I.) Public Library from his colleagues and the community.

GAS COMPANY LIBRARIES

Greenwood, Josephine. Library of the Consolidated Gas Company of New York and affiliated gas and electric companies. *Special Libs.* 21:292-293. 1930.

The library has some 12,000 volumes and pamphlets dealing with chemistry, economics, gas engineering, management, physics and the social sciences.

JUNIOR COLLEGE LIBRARIES

Stone, Ermine. Book collections in junior college libraries. Stanford University. *Junior College Journal.* 1:28-33. 1930.

By the librarian of Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, N. Y. The junior college has until recently received little recognition from the library profession, and the scarcity of literature on the subject is still discouraging. This paper reports an attempt to select 800 books suitable for a junior college library in the field of the social sciences, as outlined in the Dewey Decimal Classification. Eleven private junior colleges by furnishing copies of their shelf-lists in the 300s.

LIBRARIANS

Carnell, E. J. Librarians supplied. *Lib. Assistant.* 23:198-200. 1930.

A reply to an article in the *London Times* by Sir Gregory Foster, Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, on "A School for Librarians," disputing his implications that the demand for library assistants at present exceeds the supply.

LIBRARY PLAYS. See DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION.

LIBRARY PRINTING

Snaith, Stanley. Valuations. *Lib. Assistant.* 23:200-203. 1930.

"While commercial advertising has taken advantage of that 'tide in the affairs of men,' library advertising has preferred to stand still. Like the little girl in De La Mare's poem, it remains 'stuck fast in yesterday.' It cares neither for efficiency nor beauty. . . . The average typography, as demonstrated by library publicity and bargain-sale handbills, is depressingly mediocre. The majority of jobbing printers, one is forced to believe, achieve the astonishing feat of going through their lives without experiencing a single gleam of interest in their craft. They take a fiendish pleasure in grabbing a hotch-potch of mutually irreconcilable founts, and scattering them about the page with the large recklessness of a confetti-thrower. (The margins they leave to God). Their types are wizened or lubberly. Their decorative flowers and borders are the very Billingsgate of ornament. A good printing house, however, possesses resources which render, or ought to render, slatternly publicity unnecessary and extravagant."

LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS

Auckland (N. Z.) Public Libraries. *The Library Tower.* Vol. 1, no. 1. September, 1930. illus. pors. tables.

Although primarily intended to list books added to the stocks of the central and branch libraries, this bulletin devotes its first issue to an historical account of the foundation and development of Auckland's public library system, now fifty years old.

LIBRARY WORK WITH SPECIAL CLASSES OF CHILDREN

Steinmetz, Nell. Books and the discipline problem boy. *Lib. Jour.* 55:814-815. 1930.

Books as diverse as *Peter Rabbit*, *The Boy's Life of Colonel Lawrence*, and *The Water Babies* have been the cause of awakening the interest and cooperation of unruly boys. Confering some special responsibility, such as that of student librarian, also helps.

PRINTING. See LIBRARY PRINTING.

QUEENS BOROUGH (N. Y.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

[Hodgson, J. G.] *The Business Library; Business and Municipal Library Service as Proposed by the Board of Trustees.* Parsons Boulevard, Jamaica, N. Y.: Queens Borough Public Library, 1930. 12 min. p.

A propaganda pamphlet issued by the library in support of its campaign for a business library. Because the Borough of Queens does not have a single outstanding business center, the proposed library would have a widespread territory to cover. Because of its great number of separate communities, Queens still has many of the aspects of the small suburban communities which surround New York.

See also BOOK WAGON DELIVERY.

RURAL SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Lathrop, E. A. *County Library Service to Rural Schools.* Wash.: Govt. Prtg. Off., 1930. pap. 53p. illus. maps, tables. 15c. (U. S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of Education, Bull., 1930, no. 20).

Miss Lathrop's *State Direction of Rural School Library Service* (Bull. No. 6) was listed in "Current Library Literature" in LIB. JOUR. for August. Partial contents of this bulletin: County Library Branches in School Buildings; Rural School Problems of County Libraries; Visual Aids, Magazines, Music, and Other Material Loaned to Schools by County Libraries; Children's Use of County Libraries During Summer Vacations; Efforts of County Librarians in Stimulating Interest in Libraries. 5 p. bibliography.

SALARIES

Compton, C. H. How to determine what salaries shall be paid librarians. *A. L. A. Bull.* 24:596-598. 1930.

Paper delivered before the Trustees Section at the Los Angeles conference, June 26, 1930. Three definite sources of information are the salary statistics for eight groups of libraries published annually in the *Bulletin*; comparison of library salaries with salaries paid teachers in the community, based on equal academic and professional education and experience; and the Bureau of Public Personnel Administration report, *Proposed Classification and Compensation Plans for Library Positions*, published in 1927.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Henshall, M. D. California State Library a potent factor in developing school library service. illus. *School Life.* 16:38-39. 1930.

First of a series of school library articles on the activities of certain of the States in improving library facilities for schools. Into 46 central school libraries administered by trained certificated county librarians have been merged the former 2400 inefficient, inactive, un-supervised school-district libraries.

Lathrop, E. A. The library and the modern school. illus. *Normal Instructor and Primary Plans.* 11:64; 74. 1930.

By the Assistant Specialist in School Library Service, U. S. Office of Education (see also under RURAL SCHOOL LIBRARIES). Reports briefly on State reading-circle courses for children.

TOKYO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

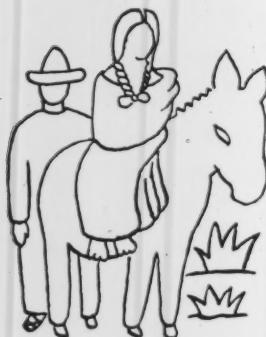
Tokyo Imperial University Library. *Reconstruction Album; Containing the Final Report on the Reconstruction of the Tokyo Imperial University Library, 1923-1929.* Compiled at the Library, 1930. pap. 12; 26; [5]p. illus. plans.

Twelve pages of text, followed by 26 pages of plates illustrating the process of reconstruction of the library. Plans show front elevation, ground floor, main floor, block plan, transverse section, and longitudinal section. Destroyed by earthquake in 1923, the library was rebuilt through a gift of four million yen from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and its new building dedicated Dec. 1, 1928. Books restocked amount approximately to 620,000 volumes, of which 523,000 volumes represent gifts from all parts of the world.

The Children's Librarians' Notebook

MADE IN MEXICO. By Susan Smith. Knopf. \$2.

An interesting and valuable little book on



Mexican handicraft which gives much information about the life and customs of the people. The style is simple and direct, the black and white illustrations are in harmony with the subject, and there are many helpful photographic reproductions. The book fills a niche heretofore empty.

Large libraries should buy and small ones, too, if the latter can afford.—E. P. A. S.

GOOD LITTLE DOG. By Anne Stoddard (Pictures by Berta and Elmer Hader). Century. \$1.

From his first picture you know Bingo is a good little dog, but you aren't so sure when he tells how he runs behind the red wagon and pulls Matilda, the rag doll, out to "chew her a little." However, he saves Matilda from the fire and becomes a hero! Pictures by the Haders are half the book and the price permits duplication, but unfortunately the pictures come so close to the inner margin that rebinding will not be possible.—A. M. W.

THE AMBER BEAD. By Toni Rothmund. Longmans, Green. \$2.

This story of a foundling who is finally restored to her mother is well written and delightfully fanciful. Heidi, the little girl, understands the language of birds and animals. The animals seem quite natural in spite of the fact that they talk. The book is well illustrated and is one of the most charming books of the Fall. It will be enjoyed by the child who likes fairy tales and the child who enjoys animal stories.

—M. R.

These books are actually reviewed by different children's librarians in the field. If you do not agree with the review of a book send in your own review and we will print it. The name of the reviewer of any book will be given upon request.

NUTCRACKER OF NUREMBURG. By Alexandre Dumas. McBride. \$2.50.

A book that can better be used for storytelling than for reading. The general make-up and theme of the story will appeal strongly to the adult reader who likes unusual books, but only the fastidious child will be persuaded to enjoy it for himself. If one is given to superlatives, the very delightful silhouettes will arouse deep interest.—W. W.

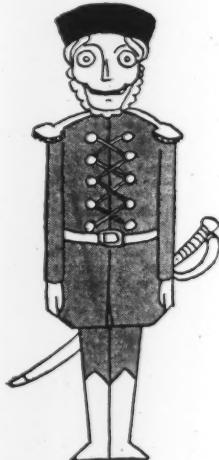
CALL OF THE RIO BRAVE. By A. E. Bailey. Little, Brown. \$2.

A book full of thrills and excitement which are tempered by the clear-headed courage and bantering good humor of two young men in central Brazil. One leaving Harvard in his freshman year goes to Brazil to try and replenish his father's lost fortune, and there finds a good friend in the young owner of a lumber mill and makes a place for himself in the mill by hard work, courage and fair play. Older boys and young men will enjoy this book.

—M. W.

NUTCRACKER AND THE MOUSE-KING. Translated by Louis F. Eneking and illustrated by Emma L. Brock. Albert Whitman. \$1.50.

A translation from the German of the fairy tale which inspired Tschaikovsky to write the music of the famous Nutcracker Suite. It is a Christmas story filled with the gayest, most colorful imagining in a child's world. It tells how Marie helped the Nutcracker in his long fight with the many-headed Mouse King, and how she was taken by him to the beautiful land of Dolls. Very inexpensive considering the colorful illustrations. Good to buy for its own sake, but will be doubly valuable in connection with the Tschaikovsky music at Christmas.—H. N.



THE BLACKSMITH OF VILNO. By Eric P. Kelly. *Macmillan.* \$2.50.

Mr. Kelly, author of *The Trumpeter of Krakow* (Newbery Medal book of 1929), has again written a story with a Polish background. The scene this time is laid in the ancient city of Vilno, in the year 1832, just after the Polish revolutions against Russia. The boy hero of the story is fifteen-year-old Stefan, an orphan, sentenced to Siberia but making his escape from prison beneath the folds of the c' oak of Stanislaus, the poet. There is the Old Man of the Woods, a mysterious elf-like creature, dressed in skins and bark, who appears from time to time and as suddenly disappears. The story hinges upon the secret passing of the Polish crown from one hiding place to another to keep the Russians from taking it. There exists a belief that as long as the crown remains in Poland that country shall not perish, and it is the strength of this belief that has led the countrymen to form a secret brotherhood in which members pledge their lives for the safety of the royal crown. Older boys will find this a book to their taste, filled to the brim as it is with thrilling adventure, excitement and mystery. In construction this story is similar to *The Trumpeter of Krakow*, but we do not feel that this lessens the value of the book. Mr. Kelly's attention to historic detail and his careful character delineation are particularly noteworthy.—E. P. A. S.

RAMA, THE HERO OF INDIA. By Dhan Gopal Mukerji. *Dutton.* \$2.50.

In this story of the *Ramayana*, the great epic poem of India has been vividly and connectedly retold for young people. It will make its greatest appeal to the exceptional boy and girl and also to those adults who delight in Mr. Mukerji's poetic prose, for he has done a fine piece of work in retelling "these doings of Rama." The interesting illustrations are by the French artist, Edgar Parin D'Aulaire.—T. C. B.



*One of the Pictures Made in Vilno
by Angela Prusynska for "The
Blacksmith of Vilno"*

PETER MAKES GOOD. By Gertrude Thomas. *Beckley-Cardy.* \$2.

A very ordinary, rather tiresome collection of anecdotes about dogs of every kind, size, color and pedigree. The first story, which is the longest and from which the book takes its name, relates the principal incidents in the life of a little mongrel pup. The others are supposed to be told by the dogs themselves as they gather in the park each day under the leadership of Judge Airedale. They are all told in

the third person, however, and not as if the dogs were doing their own talking. The language used is stilted and pedantic, which makes the book extremely dull. With the wealth of material at her disposal, it is unfortunate that the author was not able to produce a more readable and interesting book. As it is, she seems merely to have collected a vast number of incidents without paying a great deal of attention to their presentation. The physical make-up of the book is also not in its favor. From its appearance one would judge it was intended for very little

children, but the language is much too difficult for them. Older children would shun it because of its "easy book" look. The stories are also too slight to interest an older child. Illustrations are cheap and poor. The book is well bound and type and paper are very good.—C. N.

FRAWG. By Annie Vaughan Weaver. *Stokes.* \$1.50.

Frawg is a little colored boy and the story of his carefree life is told most entertainingly. It is very real and the simple, yet characteristic illustrations greatly enhance its charm. Children from 7-10 years are certain to enjoy this book either when reading it themselves or when it is read aloud to them.—M. P.

MYSTERY OF WORLD'S END. By Helen Berger. *Longmans, Green.* \$2.

An isolated home, World's End, on one of the Hawaiian islands, is the scene of this story. The mystery is a bit too obvious and the incidents which go to build it up are somewhat artificial. Both boys and girls will enjoy reading the book, but there is little of lasting value about it.—L. H.



In The Library World

A Survey by the Office of Education

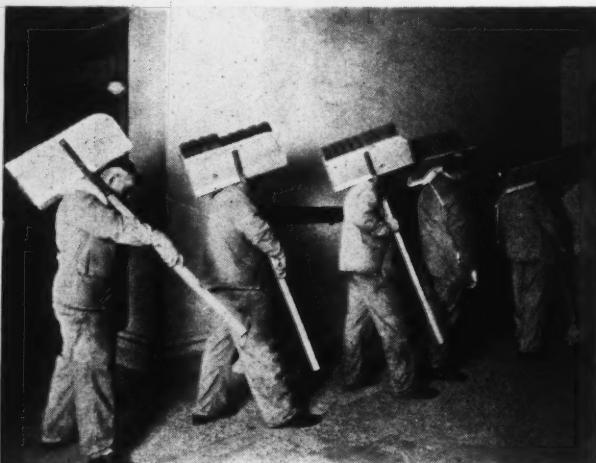
FROM A RECENT SURVEY conducted by the Office of Education, it was found that with fifty per cent of the population scattered about in approximately 3,000 counties only 262 counties have established county libraries and of these forty-six are in the State of California. Approximately sixty-one per cent of the total number of county library branches and stations are located in public school buildings and about thirty-seven per cent of these so housed furnish books for the general public, as well as for the schools. The number of books circulated by county libraries among rural schools is increasing. In the school year 1923-24 the median circulation was 10,681 volumes; in the school year 1927-28 it was 16,944. Miss Edith A. Larthrop, assistant specialist in rural libraries, states that the lack of county libraries hampers the educational progress of rural America.

The Bank Library

AT THE BANKERS' CONVENTION recently held in Cleveland, Ohio, the Special Libraries Association presented the members with a catalog called "The Bank Library, Why? When? Where? How?" compiled by a committee headed by Emma M. Boyer of the Union Trust Company, Cleveland. The booklet, which gives a strong argument for a bank library and points out its importance, runs to over sixty pages and includes a check-list of about 350 of the best books on banking classified by subject. The classification includes such subjects as Advertising and New Business, Banking Theory and Practice, Banking History, Biography, Branch Banking, etc.

Two Years' Study of A.L.A. Activities

THE COMMITTEE ON A. L. A. ACTIVITIES met at the Knickerbocker Hotel in Chicago on October 20-21. At that time the committee put into final form its report which will be presented formally to the Council at the mid-year meeting. It will appear in full in the December *A. L. A. Bulletin*. The report is the result of two years' study of the activities of the Association, based upon an examination of minutes and reports of various boards and committees and other material sent out by headquarters; a survey of headquarters; letters from a cross-section of the membership, past and present officers and members of the Council, and other representative groups, in answer to a letter sent to them by the committee; and attendance of members of the committee at meetings of the



*How the Library of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research Was Moved Into Its New Quarters
In February, 1929*

Executive Board and the more important boards and committees. The report will cover in some detail the activities of the Association, quoting freely from the letters received and coming to certain definite conclusions which it is the hope of the committee may be not without value to the Association. The members of the committee are Gratia A. Countryman, H. H. B. Meyer, and Charles H. Compton, chairman.

One Way of Loaning Books

IN PINCHFORD, Blackhawk County, Iowa, the village telephone girl acts as librarian. When she receives a supply of new books she gives the general ring on all party lines and, when everyone is listening in, tells them about the books she has to lend. This is the county where the Iowa Commission is carrying on a demonstration library for a year.

Bird Library Goes to Rollins College

THROUGH EFFORTS of the Florida Audubon Society, the ornithological library of the late Henry Nehrling, internationally famous horticulturist and ornithologist, has been acquired by Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida. The Nehrling library provides Rollins with the finest collection on ornithology of any educational institution in the State for the collection contains rare and valuable publications, including an eight-volume set of Audubon's works and an almost complete set of *The Auk*.

County Libraries in France

AT THE beginning of the year the French Ministry of Education named an extra parliamentary Committee to consider the best ways of organizing county libraries in France. The French Library Association has decided to hold a Congress of "Lecture publique" in April, 1931, in Algeria. The members of the Congress will visit the following cities in Algeria: Bona, Constantine, Setif, Oran, Miliana, Orleansville, and Tlemcen.

For full particulars apply to M. le Secrétaire de l'Association des Bibliothécaires français, 11, Rue Guénégaud, Paris-6e arr.

Send Us Your Questions

LEONILDA S. SANSONE, librarian in charge of Italian work in the New York Public Library branches, has been granted a Carnegie Corporation Fellowship for a year's special study in Italy. She sailed the last of October and will study Italian libraries, book publishing, and distribution. From time to time during this period she will have a column in *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* devoted to her findings and she has stated her willingness to answer any questions that librarians may have about Italian literature. Send any requests for information to Miss Sansone, in care of *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 62 W. 45th Street, New York City, where they will be forwarded.

N.Y.U. Starts Belgian Library

BIBLIOTHECA BELGICA, a Belgian library, was started officially on October 16 at the New York University, where the library is to be housed, when a collection of 400 volumes was presented by the Commission for Relief in Belgium, Educational Foundation, of which George Barr Baker is president and Perrin C. Galpin secretary. Dr. Henry G. Bayer, founder of the Biblioteca Belgica, and Associate Professor of French at New York University, gave a brief account of the library and a statement of its aims.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF MID-WINTER MEETINGS

	MORNING—10:00-12:30	AFTERNOON—2:30-5:00	EVENING—8:00
Monday Dec. 29	Council	American Library Institute Association of American Library Schools League of Library Commissions Normal School and Teachers College Librarians	*Association of American Library Schools Bibliographical Society of America College Librarians of Middle West
Tuesday Dec. 30	Council	*Board on the Library and Adult Education League of Library Commissions Librarians of Large Public Libraries University and Reference Librarians	Committee on Recruiting Librarians of Large Public Libraries Training Class Section University and Reference Librarians
Wednesday Dec. 31	*Executive Board and Program Committee with Representatives of Groups holding meetings during Annual Conference	*Executive Board	*Executive Board

Star indicates closed meetings.

Books on Unemployment

THE PRESIDENT'S EMERGENCY COMMITTEE on Employment, headed by Col. Arthur Woods, is relying for local work largely on existing organizations, believing that for most cities and towns this is a better plan than to set up a new organization. It is hoped that these groups Chambers of Commerce, women's clubs, welfare organizations, etc.—as they come together to face the practical problems of their local communities will take opportunity to study the basic facts of unemployment as they have been found by experience and research, and that local libraries and bookstores will aid in supplying the best available material on the subject. Because of the importance of having such information available, the President's Committee has asked the offices of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL and *Publishers' Weekly* to use their pages to distribute as promptly as possible a brief list of the more important material. The editors have turned to the Economics Division of the New York Public Library and the library of the Russell Sage Foundation for suggestions for such a list, and from their suggestions are printing the following list of twelve books that might be considered a first selection for such a reference collection. It should be pointed out that besides the studies in book form a great deal of the important data is in pamphlet form covering research under various auspices, and in magazine form, as, for example, in the *Survey* of November 15 of this year. Librarians can give from their collections the key to this current material. It is hoped by the President's Committee that libraries will take the initiative in seeking out the local leaders to offer assistance.

Berridge, W. A. *Cycles of Unemployment in the United States, 1903-1922.* 88p. Boston: Houghton, 1923. \$1.25.

Beveridge, William. *Unemployment.* New ed. 514p. Longmans, 1930. \$7.50.

Clay, Henry. *The Post-War Unemployment Problem.* 208p. Macmillan, 1929. \$3.40.

Davison, R. C. *The Unemployed, Old Policies and New.* 292p. Longmans, 1929. \$4.

Feldman, Herman. *The Regularization of Employment; a study on the prevention of unemployment.* 437p. Published under the auspices of the American Management Association. Harper, 1925. \$3.50.

Harrison, S. M., and others. *Public Employment Offices;* their purpose, structure and methods. 685p. Russell Sage Foundation, 1924. \$3.50.

Hobson, J. A. *Rationalization and Unemployment;* an economic dilemma. 126p. Macmillan, 1930. \$1.75.

Klein, Philip. *The Burden of Unemployment; a study of unemployment relief measures in fifteen American cities, 1921-22.* 260p. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1923. \$2.

Lewisohn, S. A., and others. *Can Business Prevent Unemployment?* 226p. New York: A. A. Knopf, 1925. \$2.

Bibliography, p. 217-226.

American Federation of Labor. *Trade Unions Study Unemployment.* 167p. Washington, A. F. of L., 1929. 50c.

Business Cycles and Unemployment. Report and recommendations of a committee of the President's Conference on Unemployment, including an investigation made under the auspices of the National Bureau of Economic Research, with a foreword by Herbert Hoover. 405p. McGraw-Hill, 1923. \$4.

President's Conference on Unemployment. *Planning and Control of Public Works;* report of the Committee on Recent Economic Changes, including the report of Leo Wolman. 260p. New York National Bureau of Economic Research, 1930. \$3.

\$150,000 for Oberlin

THE CARNEGIE CORPORATION of New York has recently given Oberlin College a gift of \$150,000 for the endowment of the librarianship of the Oberlin College Library. This gift came unsolicited, a tribute to the past and present excellence of Oberlin's library.

Oberlin College Library, now the largest college (not university) library in the United States, dates from the beginning of the college, when Rev. John L. Shepherd, one of the founders, collected books as well as money from his clergymen friends. By 1874 the library numbered 10,000 volumes, and college authorities for the first time considered a full-time librarian necessary. In 1885 it was moved into Spear Library, a building that housed the zoology department and a museum as well, and every one congratulated himself that the library was commodiously lodged for fifty years at least. But in 1887 Azariah S. Root was appointed librarian, and from that time on it grew rapidly. By 1892 there were 25,000 volumes; that number was doubled in 1900 and tripled by 1906. In 1908 the library was moved into the present Carnegie Library building. The number of volumes today is approximately 325,000. Azariah Root, who was the head of the Oberlin library for forty years and one of the foremost librarians in America for almost as long, died in 1927. A year later, his work was taken over by Julian S. Fowler, of the University of Cincinnati Library, who is the present librarian and will be the first beneficiary of the present endowment.

Union List Announcement of Publication

THE UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS in special libraries of the Metropolitan district is now assured publication not later than March 1, 1931, through the grant of the Carnegie Corporation, made to cover the cost of completing the compilation and of printing. In most cases the special library is necessarily confined to material bearing directly on its own field, but often is called upon for material in other fields. Lack of space and lack of funds forbids keeping material to fill this occasional need. Consequently, the special library is more dependent on the cooperation of other libraries than is the public library. The "Union List" aims to help the librarian in locating particular titles and volumes in other libraries. It will record the holdings of about seventy-five of our principal special libraries, covering practically all fields.

The cooperating libraries fall into the following classifications:

Arts and Science	5
Civic	3
Commercial and Industrial	5
Engineering and Technical	17
Education	3
Financial	11
Insurance	5
Legal	4
Medical	8
Religious	7
Sociological	6

The list, which will include approximately ten thousand entries, will be printed by H. W. Wilson Co. in a style uniform with its other publications. It will form a book of about five hundred pages bound in library buckram and will sell at \$4 per copy.

In order to have some basis for estimating the number of copies to be printed, it is urgently requested that advance orders be placed now. These should be sent to Miss Ruth Savord, 45 East 65th Street, New York City.

Attention Given to State Extension

THE TWENTIETH annual meeting of the Montana Library Association, with thirty-five delegates attending, was held in Billings, Mont., October 20-21. Informal round tables discussing problems confronting librarians were found to be more beneficial than the usual scheduled talks and papers. Much attention was given to the library extension work in the State and particular emphasis laid on the travelling libraries. One evening the program was made

public and county libraries were discussed extensively. An interesting demonstration was made of the new Detroit charging system, a self-charging system used by patrons in many city libraries. An exhibit of Will James' writings and pictures was held in the Parmly Billings Memorial Library. Librarians of the State are extremely interested in Northwest history and particularly Montana history, and in this connection works of Montana authors and artists were discussed. Visits were made to the Eastern Montana Normal School library and the Polytechnic School, where one afternoon meeting was held. Miss Fernald, librarian of the Great Falls Public Library, gave an enthusiastic and entertaining talk on her travels in Europe this summer. She told a great deal of the Passion Play. Great Falls was chosen for the next meeting, which will be held the third week in May, 1932.

The newly elected officers are: President, Mrs. Mary Homan, Phillips County Library, Malta, Mont.; Secretary, Mrs. Leon Coombs, City Library, Glendive, Mont.; Treasurer, Miss Geneva Cook, City Library, Bozeman, Mont.

Librarians Meet with Teachers

LIBRARIANS from every section of Maryland attended the joint meeting of the Maryland Library Association and the Maryland Public Library Advisory Commission, held Friday, Oct. 24, at Baltimore. Members partook of a box luncheon, after which Frederic G. Melcher, editor of *Publishers' Weekly*, addressed the assembly on "Book News and How to Judge It." There was also an address by Dr. Joseph H. Apple, president of Hood College and president of the Maryland Public Library Advisory Commission. Delegates then joined with the State Teachers' Association, which was also in session, in hearing an address by Dr. Everett Dean Martin, noted author and educator, who talked on "What Is an Educated Person?"

New officers of the Maryland Library Association are: President, Miss Adelene Jessup Pratt, director of the Maryland Public Library Advisory Commission; Vice-Presidents, Louis H. Dielman, librarian, Peabody Institute Library, and Miss Mary S. Wilkinson, director of work with children, Enoch Pratt Free Library; Treasurer, Mrs. Thomas A. Van Sant, Jr., librarian of Gwynns Falls Junior High School; Secretary, Miss Louise M. Reese, branch librarian, Enoch Pratt Free Library. Dr. Apple, as mentioned, is President of the Maryland Public Library Advisory Commission, and Mrs. M. A. Newell is Secretary and Treasurer.

Library Organizations

North Central Library Conference

ATTENDANCE at the North Central Library Conference, which met in St. Paul, October 14 to 17, exceeded all expectations. At most, 500 were expected. The registration was 750. The State library associations participating in the conference were those of Wisconsin, Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. Although other regional conferences had been held in this section, this was the first to include all these six States. So successful was the meeting that, before it ended, the presidents of the six associations had agreed to form a permanent organization to cooperate in various ways and to plan other such conferences.

The program, which was in charge of Miss Clara F. Baldwin, chief of the Minnesota State Library Division, was studded with notables. Among others from outside the conference territory were Dr. Everett Dean Martin of Cooper Union Forum, New York City, who delivered the principal address of the general sessions; J. C. M. Hanson of the University of Chicago Library School, Miss Anne Carroll Moore of the New York Public Library, and Miss Amy Heminway Jones of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Mrs. Margaret Culkin Banning of Duluth and Prof. J. H. Kolb of the University of Wisconsin were other attractions. Among publishers' representatives were Miss Louise Seaman of the Macmillan Company, who appeared on the program of the Children's Librarians Section, and Mr. Thomas J. McLaughlin of the H. W. Wilson Company, who brought the Bookmobile from the West Coast to be present at the conference.

The exhibit space at the Hotel Lowry, headquarters of the conference, was completely filled with exhibits from publishers, library supply houses and local bookstores, with publicity exhibits from the American Library Association and a large exhibit from Iowa. These exhibits, with the large registration, assured the conference at the outset of being a financial as well as a professional success, and a substantial sum which remained after expenses were paid was voted as a donation to the A. L. A. Endowment Fund.

Social affairs generally centered about the Hotel Lowry, although on the opening night of the conference the librarians were guests at a reception given by the St. Paul Public Library staff. In compliment to the conference,

the library opened its annual children's book exhibit earlier than usual, and the reception was held in the exhibit room. Simultaneously, the J. J. Hill Reference Library, which occupies a wing of the St. Paul Library, held open house for the visitors. The only social meetings on Wednesday were the Teachers' College Librarians luncheon, the International Mind Alcove Librarians luncheon arranged in honor of Miss Amy Heminway Jones, and the dinner for school librarians. Thursday, however, abounded in luncheons, which included the catalogers, the hospital librarians, the children's librarians, the county librarians, and the trustees. In the evening came the banquet in the Grand Ball Room of the Hotel Lowry. Tables were arranged for alumni of the various library schools, with a hostess at each table.

Friday, the final day, opened with the State association breakfasts. Following that, the county librarians were entertained with a ride to visit the county library stations of Ramsey and Hennepin Counties. Despite a blustery day of bitter wind and snow, about thirty-five made the all-day trip, stopping for lunch at the University of Minnesota. Sight-seeing trips through the Twin Cities for the other members of the conference were arranged by the Twin City Library Club for Friday afternoon. In the evening a number of the visitors finished the social activities of the week by attending the Minneapolis Symphony concert at the university.

ROUND-TABLES

The small colonial room of the Hotel Lowry was assigned as the meeting place of the Reference Round-Table on Thursday, October 16, but the size of the audience and the difficulty of hearing the speakers necessitated a swarming of the entire group to the ballroom. Mr. S. J. Carter, reference librarian of the Milwaukee Public Library, presided. Miss Katherine Dame, reference librarian of the St. Paul Public Library, opened the discussion with an excellent paper covering the following points: What is reference work? Upon what sort of question should the librarian spend his time? Where, if at all, should he draw the line? Although she admitted that the initials A. L. A. had been interpreted to mean "Ask Librarians Anything," Miss Dame suggested certain limitations to this service, both ethical and practical. Should the librarian, for example, spend hours of research in law books and medical books, since this free service deprives the doctor or the lawyer of legitimate fees? Crossword puzzles and contests, information on the

making of wine, telephone service to school children trying to shirk labor on their assignments, and whether or not librarians should give their time free to type long articles for patrons were other questions which Miss Dame suggested. As possibilities for the enlargement of service, on the other hand, Miss Dame mentioned the use of special personal talents of members of the library staff, such as the translation of letters or the criticism of manuscripts, if too much time were not involved. Mrs. Winifred Davis of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission gave a very practical talk on "New and Significant Reference Books." Her point of view was, frankly, that of the small or medium-sized library. The list of books which she had prepared contained the important reference tools which should be in such libraries. The relative merits of the *A. L. A. Catalog*, the *U. S. Catalog*, the *Standard Catalog*, the *Subscription Books Bulletin*, the various encyclopedias, including the new edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, came in for much lively discussion. Miss Adra Fay, reference librarian of the Minneapolis Public Library, spoke on "Our Service to Schools. Problems in Cooperation and Coordination." She gave many valuable suggestions as to the means of establishing such cooperation on the part of both the teachers and librarians. Teachers might cooperate by familiarizing themselves with the library collection, by teaching respect for books and appreciation of literature, by training students in the use of indexes, by defining their requests clearly, and by notifying the library in advance of important assignments to classes. Librarians could establish friendly relations with teachers by visiting them, by calling their attention to new books and helping them to spend wisely, and by satisfying their personal requests. Miss Fay also touched upon the problems of instruction in the use of reference books, which she thought in most cases might be left to the schools; the necessity for getting the student to help himself as much as possible; the question whether translations or synopses should be given or withheld; the distressing mutilation of books, especially since the introduction of the project method, which requires the student to furnish pictures for his notebook.

The attendance at the Library Commissions Round-Table was about thirty-five, including the secretaries of commissions of all the six States. Miss Leora J. Lewis, director of the South Dakota Library Commission and president of the League of Library Commissions, presided. Mr. C. B. Lester of Wisconsin suggested that part of the process of making rural people library conscious was to stress the value

of books and reading. He suggested that in library publicity we build too much on the foundation of our own viewpoint and assume an attitude toward reading that is not general. The first task is to show what books can mean, and then develop means of supplying books through libraries. The individual as well as the group must be considered in this educational process. In the discussion which followed Mr. Lester's talk, several methods of interesting farm people in books were discussed. The consensus of opinion seemed to be that among publicity agencies the radio and the farm journal were perhaps the most important. Miss Nellie Williams of the Nebraska Commission led the discussion as to the need of more printed helps for the very small library. In Miss Williams' opinion, the two helps most needed were an organization manual arranged for the use of the librarians without training, and a short list of books which should be timely, and which should avoid the books too expensive for the small library and also books intended only for the sophisticated reader and, consequently, too extreme for purchase by the library with limited funds. The question of whether such a list could be a union commission activity was discussed, and a suggestion was made that the *Booklist* be asked to consider this phase of book selection. Miss Lillian Cook of North Dakota, building on the discussions developed at the Rural Library Institute at Madison last summer, presented the question as to whether certain commission activities should be discontinued, which continued and stressed, and which initiated. It was decided that a survey should be taken in which commission secretaries should be asked to suggest policies or objectives which they considered important, these suggestions to be tabulated and presented at the mid-winter meeting for further consideration. A report on the county library experiment in Black Hawk County, Iowa, was given by Miss Julia Robinson of the Iowa Commission. Miss Robinson explained that the experiment was being jointly financed for one year by the Iowa Library Association, the Iowa Commission, and Black Hawk County, and that books had been donated by the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs. Headquarters are in the Waterloo Public Library. Miss Robinson told of the interest in the experiment and suggested the possibility of continuing it through a second year if it was felt that it was desirable to give a longer period of service before asking the county commissioners to take over its financial support.

The Catalogers' Round-Table held its session Thursday afternoon in the auditorium of Wilder Building, St. Paul, Minn. The chair-

man, Miss Eliza Lamb, head cataloger of the library of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis., opened the meeting by calling on Miss Amy Moon, chief of the Catalog Division of the St. Paul Public Library, who spoke briefly, urging establishment of groups of catalogers for discussion on methods of cataloging, classification, etc. Mr. Ralph M. Dunbar, assistant librarian, State College Library, Ames, Iowa, was the second speaker and gave a very enlightening talk on the "Cataloger—Mechanistic or Intellectual." Mr. Dunbar used as the text of his paper a quotation from Miss Harriet Howe's article of 1924, "Traits of a Cataloger": "The cataloger should possess the best traits of a scholar, an administrator and a good clerical worker, and must have such a clear conception of his work that nothing can interfere with the proper balance of these traits." Mr. J. C. M. Hanson of Chicago gave an interesting talk on "Tendencies in Catalogs and Classifications" and dwelt on four points: selective cataloging, arrangement in a dictionary catalog, classification and training. Miss Dorothea Heins, librarian of the Alexander Mitchell Library, Aberdeen, S. D., presented next "Cataloging in the Small Library." Miss Harriet A. Pearson, assistant librarian, State Agricultural College, Fargo, N. D., presented next "Cataloging Problems in the College Library." Miss Pearson spoke enthusiastically in favor of the information file. Before closing the round-table discussion, Miss Lamb called upon Miss Helen K. Starr, librarian of the James Jerome Hill Reference Library, to speak on the "Treatment of Maps in the St. Paul Public and Hill Reference Libraries." Miss Starr said that in remodeling the Hill Map Room they used the Newark map platform plan. Miss Starr brought with her copies of her "Map Routine," which she very generously gave to anyone interested.

County Libraries Voted Major Activity

THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY conference of the New York Library Association was held in Albany, October 14 to 17, in connection with the sixty-sixth convocation of the University of the State of New York, the theme of which was adult education. The registration was 330. The convocation for the first time recognized libraries on its program by devoting an afternoon to "The Library and Adult Education," with George Herbert Locke, Alice S. Tyler and Arthur E. Bostwick as speakers. This subject was also presented on the conference program by a discussion led by Edouard C. Lindemann on "The Public Library in Relation to Other Adult Education Agencies." Among

adult education agencies represented were the American Library Association (represented by Mr. Drury), the American Association for Adult Education, the Affiliated Summer Schools for Women Workers, the Extension Department of New York State College of Agriculture and Home Economics, the National University Extension Association, the Department of Adult Education of the National Education Association, the Committee on Adult Education of Western New York, the National Home Study Council, the Adult Education Bureau of the State Department of Education, and several local school systems. The meeting closed with reports of experiments in adult education of which libraries are a part, including a detailed report by Mrs. Helen W. Grammiss of the Muhlenberg Branch experiment in New York City. Later in the week, as an outcome of the meeting, resolutions were passed recommending that the Council set up a committee "which shall endeavor to secure for the library in any community which has adult education movements in progress its rightful connection with these activities from their inception."

The promotion of the county library system throughout the State was voted again in 1930, as in 1929, to be one of the major activities of the Association. Resolutions were passed favoring active support of an amendment to the State's county library law which will provide State aid to county libraries and a more equitable distribution of the tax burden in the county. It was voted to organize locally the movement for county library development by appointing in each county committees representing the granges, parent-teacher associations, libraries and other interested groups. The book busses of the Queensborough and the Yonkers Public Libraries were present during the week to show what county-wide book service from a truck might be. At the meeting on the "County Library Campaign in New York State" the principal address was made by John D. Willard, Research Associate in Rural Education of the American Association for Adult Education, who summarized the obstacles to county library development as wrong attitudes, economic conditions and insufficient or embarrassing legislation, the last named of which it is the special responsibility of the State to overcome. Others who spoke in behalf of the county library idea and the proposed legislation were Elizabeth L. Arthur, State Grange lecturer, who spoke for the State and local granges; Prof. C. E. Ladd, who appeared for the extension interests of the New York State College of Agriculture and Home Economics at Cornell, and Mrs. Guerdon B. Miller, representing the State Congress of Parents and Teachers.

Prof. Robert E. Rogers, director of reading at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, made good his reputation for stirring up discussion by his talk to trustees and librarians on their duties to those born since 1900, for whom English literature of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries has less and less to say, and to readers in general who should be brought by the public library into contact with the nineteenth century Europeans and more significant English writers who have had a dominating influence on the American literature of today.

The joint responsibility of public and school libraries for the reading of the young person midway between childhood and adulthood was emphasized by the meeting presided over by Anna Clark Kennedy, supervisor of school libraries in the State Education Department. Mabel Williams, supervisor of work with schools in the New York Public Library; W. H. Pillsbury, superintendent of schools, Schenectady, and Irene Smith, of the Intermediate Department, Brownsville Children's Branch, Brooklyn, dealt with the subject from their various points of view.

The address of the president, Elizabeth M. Smith, was a survey of the professional responsibilities of the New York Library Association, considered as a typical State library organization, related on the one hand to the national body, the A. L. A., and on the other to the State supervisory body, the Library Extension Division.

An anniversary meeting was held on the opening night, addressed by Dr. Frank P. Graves, Commissioner of Education, who extended a welcome in behalf of the Department of Education; by President Strohm, who brought greetings from the A. L. A., and by Capt. E. Cockburn Kyte, who gave a history of the English public libraries and the L. A. U. K. during the past forty years.

There were several round-table discussions—"Child-Study Problems of the Children's Librarian," led by Dr. Ruth Andrus, director in child development and parental education of the State Education Department; "Reference Books and Service," led by James I. Wyer; "Publicity for Public Libraries," led by Leon R. Whipple of the School of Journalism of New York University; "Mutual Aid Among Scientific Libraries," led by Muriel Almon, librarian of the Division of Laboratories and Research of the New York State Department of Health, and one on new charging systems and machines.

Social events included a tea given to the members by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Executive Mansion, a reception by the

Board of Regents, which opened the convocation, and the scholarship luncheon given by scholarship winners of previous years to the winners of 1930 and guests of the conference.

Officers and Council members elected were: President, Wharton Miller, chief librarian and director, School of Library Science, Syracuse University; Vice-President, Mrs. Mabel L. Loomis, librarian, Smithside High School Library, Elmira, N. Y.; Members of Council to serve until 1933: Ada J. White and Charles E. Rush.

Separate Library Tax Proposed

THE THIRTIETH annual meeting of the Missouri Library Association was held in the Sedalia Public Library, Sedalia, Mo., October 7-9, 1930. It was considered by all who were present one of the best meetings ever held by the Association. Great interest was shown in the proposed Constitutional Amendment, which is being sponsored by the Association. This amendment provides that the library tax in this State will be a separate tax, as is the school tax. Mr. Charles H. Compton, assistant librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, is chairman of this committee, and he was assured the hearty co-operation of every member present. Among the many interesting events on the program were talks by Dr. Walter Williams, president of Missouri University, and Mrs. Luella St. Clair Moss, president of the Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs. Miss Vera Prout of the Kansas City Public Library Children's Department gave a paper on children's books. This was followed by ways of teaching the use of the library to children by Miss Norma Weis, children's librarian of Crunden Branch, St. Louis, Mrs. Grace M. Young, librarian of the Sedalia Public Library, and Mr. C. E. Wells, librarian of the State Teachers College Library, Maryville, Mo.

The following officers were elected for the year 1930-1931: President, Dr. A. E. Bostwick, St. Louis; Vice-President, Miss Frances Swanwick, Joplin; Treasurer, Miss Lucille Brumbaugh, Maryville; Secretary, Miss Margaret McDonald, Jefferson City.

Manual of Library Economy

THE FOURTH EDITION of James Duff Brown's *Manual of Library Economy* will be published shortly by Grafton & Company, London. The work has been revised by W. C. B. Sayers and is illustrated with plans and elevations of the most modern English and American libraries.

Session Devoted to Emily Dickinson

THE FALL MEETING of the New Jersey Library Association was held at Passaic, Friday, October 10, 1930, with an attendance of over 250. The morning session was held at the Reid Memorial Library and was presided over by the President, Miss Maud I. Stull. Mr. Henry C. Whitehead, Trustee of the Passaic Public Library, welcomed the members of the association to Passaic. Miss Amelia H. Munson, in charge of work with Continuation Schools, the New York Public Library, was the first speaker. Her topic was "Introducing Books to Working Boys and Girls." She stressed the great problem of introducing books to the boys and girls of the continuation school whose ages range between fourteen and seventeen and many of whom have left school not because of economic pressure but simply because they hated school and books. The second address of the morning was on the subject of "A List of Books for Young People" and was delivered by Miss Mabel Williams, Supervisor of Work with Schools, the New York Public Library. She introduced for the consideration of the association a list of books for young people (1930 edition) published by the New York Public Library. The address was concluded with a general discussion on the subject of books for young people.

Following the address a brief business meeting was held at which time the following resolution concerning the death of Mr. Henry C. Buchanan was passed:

In the death of Henry C. Buchanan on Sunday September 28, 1930, the libraries of the State of New Jersey have lost a wise leader.

Mr. Buchanan was for thirty-one of his eighty years a member of the New Jersey Library Association. He aided in the passage of the traveling library bill and until an appropriation could be made he took charge of the traveling libraries and did the work for love. He was State Librarian from 1899 to 1914. In this capacity he aided in the passage of the law creating the Public Library Commission in 1900. For thirty years he served as secretary of that Commission.

Mr. Buchanan was on the editorial staff of the *Trenton Times* and special writer for the *New York Sun* and other newspapers for many years and in that capacity greatly served the library cause, not only through his own editorials and contributions, but through his influence throughout the State as dean of editors of New Jersey, and through the personal friendships of the reporters of the State. He was utterly fearless in any cause he championed, and keen of judgment, far-sighted and untiring in effort. To him is largely due the progress made by the Public Library Commission.

BEATRICE WINSER
SARAH R. BUDD
JOHN P. DULLARD

Mr. Howard L. Hughes, Treasurer of the

Scholarship Fund, reported that a total of \$3,210 has been collected for the George M. La Monte Scholarship Fund. Of this, \$3,000 has been invested in a first mortgage at 6 per cent interest, netting \$180 annually. This concluded the morning session.

The afternoon session was opened at Westminster Hall at 2:15 o'clock. Miss Maud I. Stull, President of the Association, presided and announced that the afternoon would be given over to a discussion of the life and poems of Emily Dickinson. Madam Martha Dickinson Bianchi, niece and biographer of Emily Dickinson, gave a most informal but wholly delightful talk on "The Real Emily Dickinson." She described Emily Dickinson to her listeners, giving them her background so that they might form for themselves a mental picture of this well-loved poetess and her surroundings. The next speaker, Dr. Carrie Weaver Smith of the Montrose School, Reisterstown, Maryland, read several of Emily Dickinson's poems, interspersing them with remarks about the author and the beautifully individual manner she had of bringing truths out in poetry. A cordial invitation was extended to the delegates to inspect any or all of the various branches of the Passaic Public Library.

The officers of the association elected for the coming year are: President, Miss Maud I. Stull; Vice-President, Katherine B. Rogers, of the State Library; Secretary, John B. Fogg, New Brunswick; Treasurer, Edith L. Smith, Morris County.

Michigan Emphasizes County Work

PERFECT WEATHER, brilliant autumn coloring, Lake Superior blue and shining stretching boundlessly to the north, hospitable homes in a lovely old town formed an unrivaled setting for the meeting of the Michigan Library Association in Marquette, on October 8, 9 and 10. It had been some time since a meeting had been held in this section. All but four of the libraries in the Upper Peninsula were represented at this meeting.

The program was not crowded and left ample time for the exchange of ideas and the making and renewing of professional friendships. Some of the historical backgrounds of the region were given by three prominent men of the locality: Prof. Lew Chase, Mr. J. E. Jopling of Marquette, and Prof. James Fisher of Houghton.

The central theme of the program was the County Library. The outstanding features were a talk on "County Libraries," by Miss

Charlotte Templeton, librarian of Greenville, S. C.; a talk by Ernest Cockburn Kyte of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, on "English Country House Libraries," and one on "Labor Saving Devices," by Mr. Ralph Ulveling of Detroit.

The various section programs were given prominent places on the program, and so arranged that there was no conflict in time. Everyone could, therefore, go to all but one of the meetings. The trustees' dinner has become one of the important functions in the Michigan meetings. This year school children who had won prizes for essays on the County Library were guests. The tables were decorated to represent farm and county library service. The result was a vivid and potent appeal for a much needed service. There were drives about the towns near by, a visit to the library in Ishpeming, and a picnic on lovely Presque Isle, where "pasties" were introduced to those who were new to their excellence. The College and Reference Section program was in charge of Miss Eunice Wead of the University of Michigan, the Catalog Section under Miss Maud Grill of Jackson, the Lending of Books—a round-table discussion under Miss Marie Brookes of Detroit. The School and Children's Section set a good example in combining their efforts. Miss Julia Garst of Hamtramck and Miss Frances Dunn of Saginaw were in charge of this meeting.

The officers for the coming year are: President, Prof. C. B. Joeckel, University of Michigan; Vice-President, Mrs. Mary Frankhauser, State Librarian, Lansing; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Marie Manderfield, Houghton Public Library; Secretary, Miss Elizabeth Skinner, Detroit Public Library; Treasurer, Mrs. Nancy B. Thomas, Birmingham Public Library.

Rosenwald Program Discussed

THE TWENTY-FIRST annual meeting of the Kentucky Library Association was held at Paducah, October 9-10. Mrs. May McClure Currey, Librarian of the Shawnee Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library, presided. The first session was devoted to business meetings and reports of standing committees, together with a review of the A. L. A. meeting at Los Angeles, by Mrs. H. G. Henderson, of the Georgetown Public Library. In the afternoon, after the address of welcome and the response, Miss Tommie Dora Barker, Regional Field Agent for the South, gave an interesting and enlightening discussion of the Rosenwald Program of Library Aid. There was a general discussion and questioning following the address showing the interest in the

movement among the members present. A delightful social function was given in the evening, in the form of a Book Dinner, in which the librarians were aided by some residents of Paducah.

The Friday morning session was devoted to section meetings. The whole body met for a short session with the school sections, where they heard a talk on school libraries, by Miss Lucile F. Fargo, Assistant Director of the Library School of George Peabody College for Teachers. Following this the Public, College and School Round Table meetings were held. The children's section meeting, led by Miss Bernice W. Bell, head Children's Department, Louisville Free Public Library, was held in the afternoon. It consisted of an address by Miss Fargo and discussions of several topics of interest to the children's librarian. One delightful feature was a puppet show, given by Miss Bell and a member of her staff. After the meeting the librarians were guests of the city for a drive over Paducah and its environs, followed by a tea given by the Women's Clubs.

In the evening, an address was made by Dr. A. L. Crabb, of George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee. The theme was the place of books in the lives of the American people and the part the librarian plays in presenting these books to the public.

New officers elected are: First Vice-President, Miss Alma J. L'Hommecieu, Covington Public Library; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Dorothy Goodwin, Louisville Free Public Library; Directors, Miss Margaret Bailey, Murray State Teachers' College, and Miss Isobel Bennett, Eastern Kentucky State Teachers' College, Richmond.

Two Memorial Volumes

TO HONOR John Cotton Dana, a tribute volume, consisting of letters received after his death, newspaper and magazine editorials, and nation-wide comments, has been compiled by Beatrice Winser, librarian of the Newark Public Library. This memorial volume is printed by the Newark, N. J., Public Library.

A memorial volume in recognition of the centenary of the birth of Charles Pratt has just been issued by Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Pratt's own lack of a systematic education suggested the wide possibilities of self-education through the public library, not then universally prevalent, and his conception took the form of a "free library for the citizens of Brooklyn" which became an integral part of the great purpose of Pratt Institute in its initial year, 1887.

Among Librarians

Public Libraries

FRANCES BLACKMER ANGELILLO, Albany '26, is reference librarian at the Oklahoma Library Commission, Oklahoma City, Okla.

SARAH B. ASKEW, librarian and organizer of the New Jersey Public Library Commission, was appointed secretary of the Commission at a meeting of the New Jersey Public Library Commission on October 7, the position formerly filled by the late Henry C. Buchanan.

ELIZABETH BEAL, Pittsburgh '27, is now first assistant in the Boys and Girls Department, Carnegie Library, of Pittsburgh, Pa.

DOROTHY BECK, St. Louis '27, has accepted a position as assistant children's librarian in the Carnegie Library, Oklahoma City, Okla.

CLARA BEETLE, Simmons '14, has been appointed on the cataloging staff of the Library of Congress, Washington. Miss Beetle spent last year in advanced study at the School of Library Service, Columbia University.

WILMA BOISSELIER, Columbia '29, has been appointed first assistant in the Englewood, N. J., Public Library.

MARIA C. BRACE, recently reference librarian at Reading Public Library, is acting head of the Industrial Department at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.

PRISCILLA CHIPMAN, Simmons '26, has been appointed a cataloger at the Queens Borough Public Library, Jamaica, N. Y.

BERNICE E. DORAN, Wisconsin '25, librarian, East Side Branch, Evansville, Ind., Public Library, was promoted in the summer to serve as county librarian of Vanderburgh County, in the Evansville system.

Alice J. DORMAN, Columbia '29, is now children's librarian of the Greenwood-Phinney Branch, Seattle, Wash., Public Library.

IDA JOSEPHINE DUFF, Pittsburgh '05, has been appointed supervisor of children's work in the Englewood, N. J., Public Library.

MABEL R. GILLIS has been appointed California State librarian to succeed Milton J. Ferguson, recently appointed head of the Brooklyn Public Library, N. Y.

LILLIAN GINSBURG, Simmons '28, has become an assistant on the staff of the Kirstein Library, Boston.

AGNES O. HANSON, Wisconsin '28, reviser and assistant in the Wisconsin Library School for a year, has resigned to accept the position of cataloger in the Peter White Public Library, Marquette, Mich.

CATHERINE MANLEY HICKER, Washington '29, has been appointed first assistant in Ballard Branch, Seattle, Wash., Public Library.

ANNASUE HUGHES, Wisconsin '28, has accepted the position as librarian of the Delano Branch, Kern County Free Library, Bakersfield, Cal.

PHYLLIS L. JANSEN, Washington '28, is working as a half-time assistant in the Central and Branch children's rooms of the Seattle Public Library, while taking the advanced course in children's work at the University of Washington Library School.

EMILY H. KEITH, Washington '21, formerly first assistant in the Yesler Branch of the Seattle, Wash., Public Library, is now librarian of the Georgetown Branch.

LUCY M. KINLOCH, Pratt '26, recently first assistant in the central children's room of the Utica Public Library, is taking the course in children's work in the Western Reserve Library School and is working part time in the Cleveland Public Library.

ELEANORE KISSANE, Pittsburgh '27, is now children's librarian, Mount Washington Branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pa.

MADEGE McLAUGHLIN, Wisconsin '24, has joined the staff of the Queens Borough Public Library, Jamaica, N. Y., as assistant in the Reference Department.

ELIZABETH MADDEN, Simmons '29, has accepted a position as an assistant in circulation at the American Library in Paris, and expects to remain in France for another year at least.

MYRA POLAND, librarian of the Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., died Oct. 28.

AGATHA WADE, Simmons '26, formerly children's librarian at the Memorial Hall Library, Andover, Mass., is now children's librarian of the Dearborn, Mich., Public Library.

Colleges and Universities

JEANNETTE BOWEN, Simmons '27, has accepted a cataloging position at the Connecticut Agricultural College Library, Storrs, Conn.

MARGARET BRICKETT, Simmons '26, has joined the staff of the New Jersey College for Women Library, New Brunswick, as an assistant in circulation and reference.

ALBERTA L. BROWN, Wisconsin '25, has accepted the position as head cataloger in the University of North Dakota Library, Grand Forks.

ELSIE J. DUNCAN, Pittsburgh '24, is librarian of the Iowa State Teachers College Library, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

CECILE EVANS, Pratt '23, is now in charge of the children's library at the State Teachers College at Macomb, Ill.

KENNETH GODSCHALK, of the Library Extension Department, University of Michigan, has recently resigned and is succeeded by Mr. Francis Kamman.

ETHEL L. GOFF, Wisconsin '27, resigned as cataloger, Carnegie Free Library, Alliance, Ohio, in the summer to accept appointment as cataloger of Elmira College Library, Elmira, N. Y.

HELEN HANCOCK, Columbia '27, cataloger for the Oklahoma Library Commission, leaves New York City Nov. 29 with the Floating University.

MRS. TENNIE M. THATCHER has been appointed assistant in the Periodical Room of the University of Michigan Library, to succeed Mrs. Olive T. Bender.

KATHERINE WARREN, Simmons '14, has returned to the Yale University Library, at New Haven, Conn.

MARY EVELYN P. WHITE, Simmons '29, has been appointed cataloger at the University of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Special Libraries

MARGARET WOOD EMERSON, Simmons '17, has accepted the position of cataloger at the General Theological Library, Boston.

ROBERT GOODRICH, formerly on the staff of the University of Michigan Library, has accepted a position in the United Engineering Societies Library in New York City.

INA RANKIN, Pratt '09, formerly secretary of the Bureau of Government, has been temporarily placed in charge of the Forestry Library of the University of Michigan.

GRACE THORNTON, Pratt '25, is on the staff of the Russell Sage Foundation Library.

Marriages

GRACE C. BLEICHNER, Pittsburgh '29, was married on August 6 to Mr. James H. Grady at Pittsburgh, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Grady will live in Buffalo, N. Y.

ETHEL A. CHILDS, Simmons '28, was married on Sept. 15 to Mr. Perley N. Storer.

BEATRICE CLUGSTON, Simmons '25, was married to Mr. John Hartwell Moore on June 21 at Waynesboro, Pa. Mrs. Moore was formerly on the staff of the Cuyahoga County Library Department at Cleveland.

ESTHER COLAHAN, Simmons '26, was married on May 29 to Mr. James Hutson Hopkins, and is living at 108 South Park Avenue, Alliance, Ohio.

GERTRUDE LOUISE HARRINGTON, Simmons '23, was married on March 29 to Mr. Leon Vermont Thompson in Brooklyn, N. Y. Mrs. Thompson is continuing her work at the library of the Insurance Society of New York.

PHYLLIS RICHARDSON KANE, Simmons '28, formerly on the staff of the Brooklyn Public Library, was married this summer to Mr. William Hobson Carroll.

ELEANOR MINWOOD, Simmons '27, formerly with the Hispanic Society of America Library, New York City, was married recently to Captain Frank Trenholm Coffyn.

ANTOINETTE QUINN, Pratt '21, of the Racine, Wis., Library staff, was married to Mr. James B. Rohan on Aug. 16.

MILDRED SHAND, Simmons '22, formerly a cataloger at the Lincoln Memorial Library, Springfield, Ill., was married on July 2 to Mr. Leigh M. Kagy.

AGNES B. SPENCER, Simmons '25, was married June 30 to Rev. Corwin Carlyle Roach of Hartford, Conn. Mrs. Roach was for some years on the staff of the Yale Law Library.

MILDRED STARRETT, Simmons '13, formerly with the Avery Architectural Library, Columbia University, was married in 1928 to Mr. Alexander Garrett, and can now be reached at 7 King's Bench Walk, Inner Temple, E. C. 4, London, England.

BONNIE STRONG has left the library of the Standard Oil Company of California. She was married on Oct. 4 to Mr. George Henderson. Miss Mary Taylor, assistant librarian, has succeeded Miss Strong.

CORDELIA TITCOMB, Western Reserve '29, was married on May 24 to Mr. James Ambler Smith at Cleveland, Ohio, where Mrs. Smith had been connected with the Cuyahoga County Library.

Opportunities

(This column is open to librarians.)

Wanted—Assistant law librarian for large law library. Immediate salary, \$2,400. Age limits, 21 to 50 years. Applicants must be college or university graduates and must have had either not less than one year of training in a recognized law school or one year of training in a recognized library school, and in addition not less than two years' experience in a law library open to the public. L15.

Young woman, college and library school graduate with little experience, would like position as assistant in a public or college library. East preferred. L10.

Young woman, with college and library school training, desires responsible position. Experience includes reference, order, circulation and administrative work in college and public library. Prefers reference or reader's aid, but would consider any good opportunity. L11.

College graduate, with one year library school, would like temporary position in middle or south Atlantic States. Twelve years' general experience. College library preferred. L12.

College graduate, with additional degree in library science from Univ. Ill., desires position in college library. Would consider work in public, special or school library. L13.

Library school and teachers' college graduate desires position as general assistant. Four years' teaching and some library experience. L14.

Children's librarian, experienced, with highest references, desires position. K-15.

College graduate, with certificates from Riverside and Columbia and three years' experience in public library, desires position in public or high school library. Reference work preferred. K-16.

College and library school graduate, with teaching experience and some public, college, and university library experience, desires position in library at once. South preferred, but will consider other localities. K-18.

Free

ANY LIBRARY wishing to complete their sets of the *Civil Report* of Brig. Gen. Leonard Wood as Military Governor of Cuba for the years 1900, 1901 and 1902 might write to the Roosevelt Memorial Association Library, 28 E. 20th St., New York City, who have a supply of odd volumes for free distribution. A list of available volumes will be sent on request.

Wanted

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY of Duluth, Minn., desires copies of *Libraries* for June, 1929, and March and December, 1926. Also the *Nation* for May 8, 1929, and *Popular Astronomy* for April, 1929.

WANTED by the University of Southern California Library, University Park, Los Angeles, Cal., *Library of Congress Classification D.*

WANTED—Complete file and long runs of *Leslie's Weekly*. Will pay a good price. X20.

The Calendar

Nov. 20-23—Negro Library Conference, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.

Nov. 21—Illinois High School Library Association meets as Section of High School conference at Urbana, Ill.

Nov. 27-29—Southeastern Library Association, annual meeting at Tampa, Fla.

Dec. 29-31—Midwinter meeting of the American Library Association will be held at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

Free

THE MAYFAIR AGENCY announce the publication on November 1 of the "Periodical Handbook" for 1931, the first edition since 1929. The Handbook contains answers to almost all questions commonly asked about the leading library publications and will be sent free of charge to readers of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL who mention this periodical in making request. Apply direct to The Mayfair Agency, 51 E. 33rd St., New York City.

American Foundations

"AMERICAN FOUNDATIONS FOR SOCIAL WELFARE," compiled by Bertha F. Hulseman of the Russell Sage Foundation Library, supplants a previous publication under the same title issued in August, 1926, and for a year entirely out of print. Since 1926 many new foundations have come into existence, necessitating the inclusion of new data. A list of community trusts which report holding funds and a classified list of foundations is given. Foundations whose titles include proper names are placed alphabetically according to surnames.

New Offices

OWING to the rebuilding of the present premises of B. F. Stevens and Brown, American Library and Literary Agents in London, the new offices of this company will in the future be in New Ruskin House, 28/30 Little Russell Street, London, W. C. 1, within a few yards of the British Museum.

Story Hours for Children

THE QUEENS BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY is planning to give the children of Queens Borough entertainment by-way-of-the-air at intervals during the winter. Through the courtesy of the Municipal Broadcasting Station WNYC, arrangements are being made to have Story Hours once a week.

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Journal of Chemical Education (Baltimore): "It is surprisingly complete, and the workmanship is excellent."

Chimie et Industrie (France): "The book is of great reference value; we only wish there was something like it in French."

Science (New York City): "A book which is sure to prove very useful to chemists and to physicists, biologists, physicians and many others who make use of the facts of chemistry."

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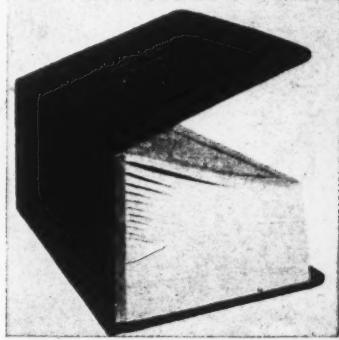
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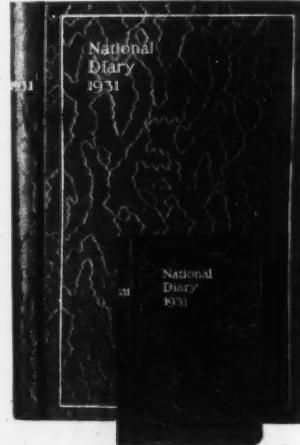
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